

Hafa Adai!

Rotary donates \$3K for Rota bus stop rehabilitation. **PAGE 2**
Footlong Sidekicks now available at Subway Saipan. **PAGE 3**

\$1

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Star Marianas sues MSA over \$8M gov't contract

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite having dissolved its operations over a year ago, Star Marianas Air Inc. has filed a federal lawsuit against Marianas Southern Airways and its president Keith Stewart, alleging violations of the U.S. Sherman Antitrust Act.

Last Tuesday, Star Marianas, through attorneys Richard Richards and Mark Scoggins, filed a lawsuit against Marianas Southern Airways and its

president with the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Aside from them, Star Marianas also named Southern
See STAR on Page 4



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From August 2022 until April 2023, Marianas Southern Airways existed as the main competitor to Star Marianas in the CNMI.



AP

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange left the court without addressing the press

Senate president hopes nat'l attention from Assange cases bodes well for CNMI tourism

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI remains on the headlines of media outlets around the world as the news of Julian Paul Assange's release remains a hot topic. Senate President Edith De-Leon Guerrero (D-Saipan) says she hopes the media attention bodes well for the CNMI's tourism industry.

Last Wednesday, the 14-year-long case against

Assange, notorious journalist imprisoned for disseminating information in relation to national defense, came to a conclusion on Saipan as U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced him to time served for the 62 months he spent in a United Kingdom prison.

In a statement from De-Leon Guerrero, although she has mixed feelings about

See SENATE on Page 4



Assange lawyer: WikiLeaks founder's fight continues

MARK RABAGO

Julian Assange's lawyers Barry Pollack, right, and Jennifer Robinson make their statements to the media after their client was sentenced to time served last June 26 at the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange

may be back in his home country of Australia, but his fight for free speech and freedom of the press

See LAWYER on Page 4

Atalig steps down as BOE chair

By CHRYSAL MARINO
chrysal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

After a journey of serving students and employees, CNMI Board of Education chair Herman Atalig stepped down from his position yesterday to focus on his health.

The CNMI State Board of Education released an official statement yesterday acknowledging it has officially accepted the resignation of Atalig,

a retired sergeant major from the U.S. Army.

In an official statement from the State Board of Education and vice chair Maisie B. Tenorio, the board, alongside the educational community, extend their profound gratitude and best

wishes to Atalig as he embarks on a new chapter in life.

"It is with deep gratitude and heartfelt appreciation that

See ATALIG on Page 4



Atalig

INSIDE



LOCAL

For 43 remarkable years, the Hyatt Regency Saipan has been more than just a hotel; it has been a cornerstone of the CNMI community. As we pay tribute to this iconic establishment, we reflect on its impact and unwavering commitment to service.

PAGE 11



BUSINESS

The CNMI Small Business Development Center Network will host a series of introductory training sessions to provide a more in-depth presentation and discussion related to the SBIR/STTR programs funded under the USDA.

PAGE 17



LIFE & STYLE

King Charles III welcomed the Japanese emperor and empress for a state visit that began on Tuesday, offering the best in pomp and circumstance as the U.K. seeks to bolster its role as the most influential European nation in the Indo-Pacific region.

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Local

Rotary donates \$3K for Rota bus stop rehabilitation

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Sen. Dennis Mendiola (R-Rota) received a donation of \$3,000 for a bus stop rehabilitation project on Rota from the Rotary Club of Saipan last June 25 during the service organization's weekly meeting at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

Mendiola said the Rotary Club donation will help finance the repair of a bus stop in Sinapalo 2, which has been experiencing severe leaks due to weather condi-

tions over the years.

He said Rota Mayor Aubry Manglona Hocog has plans to revitalize much of Rota's infrastructure, including bus stops, to better serve Rota's school children.

"However, this particular bus stop has been in need of renovation for some time. Due to funding issues, Mayor Hocog had to prioritize other projects. With the assistance from the Rotary Club, Mayor Hocog can now proceed to complete the bus stop project in Sinapalo 2, aiming to finish it before the school year

starts," he said.

Mendiola also said that Hocog intends to move forward with this project immediately, but there are still procurement processes that need to be followed, which could halt its progress.

Nonetheless, he said Hocog does not intend to delay the project. Her goal is to complete it before the next school year begins. Hocog also intends to display the Rotary Club of Saipan's logo on the bus stop as a gesture of appreciation for their generous donation.

Mendiola then expressed his gratitude to the Rotary Club of Saipan.

"On behalf of Mayor Aubry Manglona Hocog, the Rota Legislative Delegation, the Rota Municipal Council, and the people of Rota, we extend our sincere appreciation to the Rotary Club of Saipan for this generous donation. We acknowledge that the Rotary Club of Saipan has been a dedicated partner of our municipality, providing assistance in various forms, including typhoon response,

See ROTARY on Page 4



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JOETEN Hafa Adai | 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 29
JOETEN SUSUPE | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Footlong Sidekicks now available at Subway Saipan

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**

chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Subway restaurants in Gualo Rai and Chalan Piao are now serving their new and doughy Footlong Sidekicks.

The restaurants are proud to give the island a taste of Cinnamon with their sugary cinnamon footlong churro, or a twist of savory and sweet in an Auntie Anne's footlong pretzel. It's a small taste of two companies that are currently not on Saipan, and at a reasonable price, with your sugary 12-inch churro at \$3 and its pretzel twin at \$4.

When speaking to sandwich artist and shop supervisor Damian Lastimado, he shared that since the introduction of the Footlong Sidekicks in May, the dough boys were already a hit, especially with students who frequently stop by for an after-school snack.

"They're all bestsellers. But especially the churros, kids love it. And since we're near



CRYSTAL MARINO

Finish off your Subway sandwich with Subway's Footlong Sidekicks.

the school, after school kids come here to buy."

He shared that the chewy delectables are baked upon order and when dining in, customers can also request

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the Sidekicks to be baked and served after their meal so they can enjoy the textures that only come straight from the oven.

Lastimado shared that he also enjoys the doughy treats, noting that his personal favorite—not meaning his favorite people Demi Adelaide and Jeralyn—but among the footlong Sidekicks.

"My No. 1 favorite here at Subway is the pretzel. I don't know, I really love it. Especially when you eat it with honey mustard."

He said that with the suc-

cessful release of the sidekicks, Subway Saipan was also looking forward to serving the TikTok famous, and third Subway Footlong Sidekick, the footlong cookie. He shared that currently they don't have the Footlong Cookie but they are estimating to be making it available sometime next month.

Whether you're craving doughy goodness, or looking to indulge in some delicious carbs on cheat day, Subway Saipan is inviting you to come and try their new Footlong Sidekicks.



Subway Saipan sandwich artist and shop supervisor Damian Lastimado serves the Footlong Sidekicks with a Subway Series Footlong at Subway's Chalan Piao branch last Saturday.

CRYSTAL MARINO

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ACCOUNTANT

Duties & Responsibilities

Prepares, examines, and analyzes accounting records, financial statements, and other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness, and conformance to reporting and procedural standards. Interpret and apply applicable accounting and financial laws, codes, regulations and standards. Reconcile data, prepare adjustments and post account and journal entries. Analyze, and review business activities operations, costs, revenues, payables, and obligations to project future revenues and expenses. Advice management about issues such as resource utilization, tax strategies, and budget forecasting. Prepare and compute payrolls, withholding taxes, 941-SS employer's federal tax return, W-2 wage & tax statements, W-3SS, transmittal of wage & tax statements, annual reconciliation, corporate income taxes, & financial statements. Compute monthly, quarterly, & annual taxes owed and prepare tax returns, ensuring compliance with payment & reporting as required by state and federal agencies. Reconcile bank account statements and checks/petty cash disbursements. Perform other duties as required and assigned.

Requirements & Qualifications

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Interested applicants must submit their updated resume & supporting credentials to

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Probable cause found in Villagomez case

The Superior Court has found probable cause to try a man accused of stealing close to \$6,000 worth of equipment and machinery at a construc-

tion site last June 10, 2024. The ruling was made during the preliminary hearing of 28-year-old Travis G. Villagomez last Wednesday,

June 26, 2024. Villagomez is currently facing a count of theft and another count of burglary, including an imposed \$10,000 cash bail. He

appeared before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho on Wednesday under the custody of the Department of Corrections, and was joined for the hearing by his counsel, assistant public defender Charlene Brown. Assistant attorney

general Heather P. Barcinas represented the government. At the preliminary hearing, the government brought a witness to testify in the matter, and based on the matters presented during the hearing, including the witness' testimony, the court found probable cause to believe Villagomez may have committed

the crimes, and confirmed a scheduled arraignment hearing on July 1, 2024 at 9am before Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja. Villagomez was then remanded back to the Department of Corrections.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

ATALIG

From page 1

we announce the resignation of chairperson Herman M. Atalig. SGM (Ret), from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Board of Education. Chairman Atalig has expressed that serving both his country in the military and the island

of Rota has been the greatest honor of his life. His tenure as chairperson of the board, as well as his roles on the committees for Fiscal, Personnel, and Administration and the Capital Improvement Projects, have allowed him to contribute to our community and the CNMI Public School System in significant and meaningful ways," said Tenorio. She added that under

Atalig's leadership, the board has navigated numerous challenges and achieved substantial progress. "His dedication, commitment, and passion for the betterment of our students and educators have been unparalleled. Chairman Atalig's values and guidance have been instrumental in ensuring that the best interests of our students and employees were always at

the forefront of our decisions. Chairman Atalig has dedicated numerous years of his life to PSS, and his impact will be felt for honor many to years to come. His honorable leadership have set a high standard and it has truly been an honor to serve alongside him."

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

LAWYER

From page 1

will continue, according to his lawyer Barry Pollack in a statement to the media after his client was sentenced to time served last June 26 in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

"Mr. Assange revealed truthful, important, and newsworthy information, including revealing that the United

States had committed war crimes. And he has suffered tremendously in his fight for free speech, for freedom of the press, and to ensure that the American public and the world community gets truthful and important newsworthy information. We firmly believe that Mr. Assange never should have been charged under the Espionage Act as he engaged in exercise that journalists engage in every day, and we're thankful that they do. It is ap-

propriate, though, for this fight to end, and it is appropriate for the judge as she did today to determine that no additional incarceration of Mr. Assange would be fair, would be appropriate, and it is time for him to be reunited with his family. Mr. Assange is grateful for all of the support that he has received and looks forward to reuniting with his wife and his children and getting back home to Australia," he said.

Answering questions fielded by the over 50 media—most of whom had to hastily make travel arrangements to the far-flung Western Pacific island of Saipan—Pollack said Assange's work with WikiLeaks, a non-profit media organization and publisher of leaked documents, will continue.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

STAR

From page 1

Airways Express LLC and Marianas Pacific Express LLC as defendants.

Star Marianas has filed six counts of violations of the Sherman Act against Marianas Southern Airways pursuant to an \$8-million sole source contract between the airline and the CNMI government under the previous administration.

The Sherman Act aims to increase economic competitiveness by outlawing trusts, monopolies, and cartels.

As relief, Star Marianas is asking the District Court to restrain the defendants from establishing any similar agreements that unreasonably restrict competition and create a "conspiracy to monopolize the CNMI airline industry."

Star Marianas also wants the court to award them damages in an amount to be

determined at trial, and other relief the court may find just and proper.

According to the lawsuit, on March 21, 2022, Marianas Southern Airways executed a sole-source contract with the CNMI government for receipt of federal funds through the American Rescue Plan Act in the amount of \$8 million.

Marianas Southern Airways accepted a sole-source procurement services contract from then-secretary of Fi-

nance David DLG Atalig. Beginning August 2022 until April 2023, Marianas Southern Airways existed as the main competitor to Star Marianas in the CNMI.

Star Marianas said at the time, it was the primary provider of commercial passenger flight travel between Saipan, Rota and Tinian.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

SENATE

From page 1

the news surrounding Assange, she hopes the fact that Saipan has become the center of international attention will translate well in terms of tourist arrivals.

"[I have] quite mixed emotions, first because it's a national security matter and second bringing the CNMI national attention hopefully will translate into a positive return in the name of tourism," she said.

Assange's impact on Saipan

From when he arrived up until he departed Saipan, chaos followed WikiLeaks founder Assange in the form of a swarm of media representatives and supporters, all hungry for the latest scoop on the infamous journalist who pleaded guilty to disseminating classified information regarding U.S. na-

tional defense. Following a stipulated agreement between the parties in the Assange case (agreeing to hold a change of plea hearing and sentencing in the U.S. District Court for the NMI), Saipan became an international spectacle overnight.

The frenzy started in the early hours of June 26, as over a handful of international and local media representatives staked out the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport before the break of dawn in anticipation of Assange's arrival.

Straight from the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, media representatives raced to the District Court for the NMI in the hopes of catching Assange before entering the building.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

ROTARY

From page 2

educational materials for our children, and funding for projects and programs. We look forward to continuing the collaborative relationship Mayor Hocog has cultivated with the Rotary Club of Saipan and other organiza-

tions to enhance the quality of life in Rota."

In other news, the Rotary Club of Saipan will be having a "Celebrity Bagging" tomorrow, June 29, and would like to invite the public from 9am to 10am at Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center in Garapan and Triple J Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store in Susupe.



DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB24-ZB-42400123

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 30, 2024 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS 'F' VEHICLE FOR CNMI ZONING BOARD"

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QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO THE ZONING BOARD OFFICE BY JULY 19, 2024, TO MRS. THERESE T. OGUMORO VIA EMAIL AT therese.ogumoro@cnmizoning.com

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ THERESE T. OGUMORO
ADMINISTRATOR, ZB

/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS JR.
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS



DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP24-GOV/OGM-42400110

SUBMISSION DATE: July 12, 2024 TIME: 9:00 A.M.

"2023 Energizing Insular Communities 48K Solar Installation for the Tinian Public Library"

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QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP CAN BE MADE TO MR. EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR. THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE, STATE ADMINISTRATOR via email at epi.cabrera@gov.mp

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/S/ Epiphanio E. Cabrera, Jr.
STATE ADMINISTRATOR

/S/ Brien S. Nicholas, Jr.
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS



DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID

ITB24-DPS-42400108

SUBMISSION DATE: July 22, 2024
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Purchase of One (1) Class 'I' Vehicle for the Department of Public Safety, Saipan Highway Safety Office"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL AT (<https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/>) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BUILDING NO. 1301, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO MS. MARGARITA CAMACHO AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE VIA EMAIL OR TELEPHONE AT mdlcamacho@dps.gov.mp or at (670) 664 - 9122.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ Anthony I. Macaranas
COMMISSIONER, DPS

/S/ Brien S. Nicholas, Jr.
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

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STOCK # JW151033, FWD 2.0L 4CYL, AUTO
Est. Mileage: 72,745, Color: PALATIAL RUBY

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Est. Mileage: 17,705, Color: BLUE

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'MGT' winners prepare for 'AGT' and 'American Idol'

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Continuing their extensive fundraising, with a goal to represent Marianas talent globally, the *Marianas Got Talent* group and their Season 1 winners are not only preparing for upcoming auditions for *American Idol* and *The Voice*, but they are also excitedly preparing to bring Season 2 of *MGT* to the CNMI. During a sit-down conversation with *MGT*'s Arlene Reyes and Season 1 winner Sebastian Tajibmai last June 13, they shared some updates

on the inaugural season winners and a sneak peek at the upcoming second season. Tajibmai told *Saipan Tribune* that since his involvement with *MGT* has not only opened doors for him opportunity wise, but has caused him to expand understanding of music and overall style. "It really stretched out my view on singing and how much I can do with my voice, and it really helped me meet more musicians on this island that I could only idolize from afar. I never intended to join this competition and to

take it so seriously. I wanted to join it for fun, and I can't say that I didn't come in with an arrogant attitude, where I thought that I was, like, Top 3 singers on the island. But then, when I met the other competitors and judges and they were teaching me so much about what I could do with my voice...I was inspired watching how much they did with their voice and was encouraged by all their great words and advice, so I decided to take singing seriously. I usually search up on

YouTube, like, you know, tips on how to get better at singing or singing exercises, and so far, those tips and practices have been worth it. I could say that I've been progressing from my first audition to where I am now in singing. I could say that I'm way better." Reyes and Tajibmai shared that together with second place winner Donato Santiago and third place winner Bernice Shane Sabino, the team was aiming to do in-person "auditions" during the open casting

calls for *The Voice* and *American Idol* taking place late this year and early next year; but due to financial situations, a change of leadership, and personal situations for each of the Season 1 winners, the auditions had to be pushed back again. Tajibmai shared that since his *MGT* win last year, so many things have happened the past months in his life. The 18-year-old said that along with celebrating his graduation from Kagman High School, he also had to bid farewell to his father who passed away just months before his graduation. He shared that although facing life's hurdles and changes, what hasn't changed was his desire to represent the CNMI to the world. He told *Saipan Tribune* that he has been working on getting better not only with vocals but stage presence

"I'm going to go everywhere I can with not only performing by myself, but trying to meet other musicians and just not being afraid to ask them if I could join them on some of their gigs to gain some experience. I mean, I am comfortable on stage, but I know that it isn't my home yet, and I want to learn how to be really comfortable in front of singing with others or singing to others. I mean, *MGT* was just a one-time thing and then next month, but I want to do this over and over again to where I'm just comfortable." When asked what does he hope to bring to *American Idol*, his desired platform, he said "I wanted to, first of all, be the first person ever to say, 'Hello, my name is Sebastian,'

See **WINNERS** on Page 7



**NORTHERN MARIANAS COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE**
P.O. BOX 506689, SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: 670.234.3878

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence's mission is to promote, nourish, and sustain a collective movement to end violence in the CNMI. All applicants must be familiar with and agree with NMCADSV's mission to eliminate domestic and sexual violence.

Position Description

Position Title: Program Assistant
Salary Range: \$10.00/hr to \$14.00/hr

Job Summary

The Program Assistant will work with the Executive Director of NMCADSV and its Board to achieve its mission, goals, and objectives. The Program Assistant will support the daily operations of NMCADSV, including support for NMCADSV staff, the Executive Director and/or NMCADSV Board/Members, as assigned.

Duties

- Confers with and reports to the Executive Director
- Assists with the coordination of all NMCADSV activities; including event planning, logistics for NMCADSV and Board meetings, preparation of materials, and travel logistics
- Provides administrative and clerical support to the Executive Director and the NMCADSV Board of Directors and Members; including receiving calls, receiving and logging mail, and maintaining records, as assigned
- Maintains and manages the NMCADSV membership database
- Assists with finance and operations of the NMCADSV; including daily bookkeeping, vendor relations and record keeping
- Attends all meetings and conference calls, as requested
- Travels to national and inter-island meetings and conferences, as required by the Executive Director
- Oversees the maintenance of office equipment and manages office inventory
- Assists the Executive Director in grants management, including the preparation of application packets and gathering data for reports
- Performs other duties, as assigned

Minimum Qualifications

- High School Diploma, or equivalent
- An agreement with NMCADSV's mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
- Experience in providing clerical and administrative support, including record keeping
- Demonstrated abilities in verbal and written communication
- Proficiency in MS Word and Excel
- Willingness to learn in all areas of NMCADSV operations
- Flexible Schedule
- Must be able to travel

Highly Desired Qualifications

- 1 year of documented experience/work with non-profit organizations or volunteerism
- Own transportation, with documented insurance, registration, and a valid driver's license

To Apply:

A **Resume and Cover Letter** should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, June 28, 2024**. Provide a list (not copies) of any certifications and/or awards. Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Submit **resume and cover letter** to management@endviolencenmi.org, deliver to NMCADSV's office (between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.) at the Marina Heights I Building (2nd Floor, Suite 206) or mail to NMCADSV, P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950. (Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before the deadline.) Applicants who are invited for an interview will be asked to bring a copy of their Diploma or equivalent, Police Clearance (within the last 30 days), valid Passport, and a list of references.

NMCADSV is an equal opportunity employer. Individuals from under-served communities are encouraged to apply.

This project is 100% supported by federal grants, awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice and Grant # G-2301MPSDVC awarded by the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this release are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



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Position Description

Position Title: Program Coordinator
Salary Range: \$14.00/hr. to \$18.25/hr.
Classification: Full Time, Non-Exempt. Full Benefits, including paid leave and health insurance.

Job Summary

The Program Coordinator will work with the Executive Director of NMCADSV, Associate Director, and other NMCADSV staff to achieve its mission, goals, and objectives. The Program Coordinator will report to NMCADSV's Associate Director, assist with the daily operations of NMCADSV, and provide support for NMCADSV's programmatic activities. The Program Coordinator will plan and execute activities in relation to NMCADSV's mission and goals, with particular attention to specific activities outlined in corresponding grant applications.

Duties

- Confers with and reports to the Associate Director
- Assists with the coordination of all NMCADSV activities, including training and program development.
- Assists with development of presentation and training materials.
- Conducts presentations and assists with training events.
- Develops and executes community outreach and education activities.
- Assists with program evaluation.
- Maintains relationships and works collaboratively with a variety of organizations.
- Builds and maintains partnerships with community organizations and government agencies.
- Works with community organizations and government agencies to identify and address training needs.
- Attends all meetings (virtual or in-person) as assigned.
- Travels to national and inter-island meetings and conferences, as required or requested.
- Assists in grants management, including the preparation of application packets, gathering data for reports, and preparing reports.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications

- An agreement with NMCADSV's mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- Experience with community organizing and/or outreach
- Experience planning and executing events
- Demonstrated proficiency in written and oral communication
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Applications and Google Applications
- Ability to manage multiple tasks and deadlines
- Ability to work some nights and weekends
- Experience with assessments and analysis
- Must be able to travel within the CNMI and US Mainland

Highly Desired Qualifications

- Experience working in social justice or working directly with survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.
- Knowledge of dynamics of sexual violence and/or domestic violence.
- Knowledge of and commitment to culturally relevant, empowerment, and strength-based strategies for eliminating sexual violence and/or domestic violence.
- 1 year or more of documented experience/work with non-profit organizations or volunteerism
- Own transportation, with documented insurance, registration, and a valid driver's license

To Apply:

A **Resume and Cover Letter** should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, June 28, 2024**. Provide a list (not copies) of any certifications and/or awards. Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **Augustine Duenas Hernandez**, is no longer connected with Marianas Insurance Company, Ltd. as of May 31, 2024.

Any transaction or agreement(s) entered into by him on behalf of Marianas Insurance Company, Ltd. after the above-mentioned date will not be honored by the said company.

Management of MIC

Marianas Values Survey and raffle giveaway

As part of the Inafa'maolik-Tipiyéw (IT) Matters project, the Northern Marianas Humanities Council is conducting a survey to examine cul-

tural values, perspectives, and experiences as they relate to biases and conflicts between various social groups within the community.

All CNMI residents currently living in the CNMI are encouraged to take the Marianas Values Survey. By taking this survey you will be entered

into a raffle giveaway.

Every Friday beginning June 28, 2024, two winners will be randomly selected to receive a packaged prize, valued at more than \$50 with a grand prize of \$500.

Packaged prizes are inclu-

sive of a handmade spondylus necklace, a handmade gatchai necklace, gift certificates for a tray of Lynette's Original Pumpkin Crunch, Joeten, Herman's Bakery, The Shack, The Pacific Supply, and more! The grand prize drawing will be done after the closing of the survey on Aug. 3, 2024.

You must be at least 18 years old with an email address to take the survey and enter the raffle giveaway. Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/marianasvalues> to take the survey now!

This program is made possible by funding from the National Endowment for the Hu-



The QR code for the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's Marianas Values Survey.

manities and the United We Stand: Connecting Through Culture initiative. For more information on the IT Matters project, visit www.nmhcouncil.org/it-matters. (PR)

WINNERS

From page 6

and I come from the Northern Mariana Islands.' That is the one thing I've been thinking of. I just can't wait to have our people watch and be like 'Hey, you know, I'm from there.' And I want them to see that we have just as much talent as the other islands that have been popping up. I mean, not in a jealous type of way, but I just want them to see that, for example, Hawaii isn't the only island with talented singers. I want them to not only see Polynesians, but also see Micronesians."

He also shared some of the ways he's been preparing for the auditions.

"I've just been practicing on singing covers of songs that are out of my comfort zone. Because one thing I've learned or that I was told by a local musician here on the island was that you're able to stretch your voice, but you're going to need to break it before you stretch it to rebuild



Finalists from *Marianas Got Talent* Season 1 perform during last year's grand finale show at Saipan World Resort in Susupe.

it again. So, I've been singing a lot of high-pitched songs. I've been making my voice crack on purpose, just getting comfortable with breaking my voice to stretch it out even further. And, you know, jaw placement, everything. Tongue placement. Anything that could help me sing better. So, I've been taking that on to add to my arsenal of pitches that I can sing up to. So that would bring out more varieties of ways I can make my music."

Reyes shared that although Sabino and Santiago were not able to make it to the interview, they too were working toward the open casting calls. Reyes shared that Santiago had recently relocated to Hawaii, but the

plan was still to have him audition with the other two winners. Reyes said that as promised to the Season 1 contestants at the beginning, the winners will get to travel to audition for programs in the U.S. mainland. The incentive was the main reason why the group didn't choose the virtual auditions, and Reyes said that the team have been putting in the work.

"I won't stop until we see them on that stage. I love music, and coming from the States and living out there and seeing what, how advanced and well-organized they are, and coming here to see that it's not happening here, that was my mission, to bring what I've seen and done in the

States to inspire our kids to be here. And we all know that music brings people together no matter what, right? And with *MGT*, we want to give that energy, we want people to know that this is a platform to accomplish what you have, and not be afraid of it."

Reyes shared that the team was also excited to bring Season 2 for *MGT*. This time with auditions covering all three islands—Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. She said that they are still confirming dates for Saipan and Tinian's auditions, but Rota has already been confirmed to be on July 27, 2024 at the Rota Round House from 11am to 5pm. She shared that more details will be released in their social media platforms soon.

"My hope is that *MGT* will become the only platform in the CNMI, and of course with working alongside other agencies, to help our youth gain back and bring back music education into the Public School System, so we can teach our youth from as early as elementary to sing and have their confidence."

Eucon hosts Oceanview Saipan Camp

Young people ages 12-18 are invited to join the inaugural Oceanview Saipan Camp hosted by Eucon International School. Registration is \$50 per participant, covering the food and accommodation for five days. The camp starts July 1, 2024, and ends July 5, 2024.

If a youth cannot pay the registration fee of \$50, Eucon can find a sponsor for that delegate. The contact number to register and for more details is (670) 234-3203/07 or visit us in Eucon International School at Gualo Rai, Middle Road Saipan. Their business office

is open from Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm.

Delegates will stay for the entire camp, so they must bring their own bedding.

The objective of the Oceanview Summer Camp is to reach out to young people by reminding them of the importance of life, God's creation, and discipline. The youth nowadays spend a lot of time on gadgets and technology, forgetting the importance of quality time with family, respect, and honoring God. During this event, cell phones and gadgets are not permitted. (PR)



JOETEN MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC

LAO LAO BAY GOLF & RESORT - EAST COURSE
SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2024
CHECK IN 6:00AM | SHOTGUN 7:00AM

PLUS TONS OF GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES!



Ford Bronco

HOLE #4 Bank of Guam



Nissan Ariya

HOLE #6 Tan Siu Lin Foundation

\$75K CASH

HOLE #11 Pacifica Insurance



Yamaha YZ85CC Racing Dirt Bike

\$10K CASH + **CM Lawn Tractor 30" 382CC**

HOLE #15 SSC

Prizes: 1st place \$500 | 2nd place \$300 | 3rd place \$200

Championship Flight | A Flight | B Flight | C Flight
Ladies Flight | Senior Flight (59-64) | Super Senior Flight (65+)





REGISTRATION IS CLOSED. PLAYER SLOTS ARE SOLD OUT

Disclaimer: Prizes for achieving a hole-in-one are subject to verification and are awarded only under specific conditions. Terms and conditions apply. Please see event organizers for full details.

A sea turtle's shell is called a carapace. They also have scales which are called scutes. Green sea turtles have 4 lateral scales (scales on the side) two prefrontal scales (the scales on the front between their eyes).




Another way to identify a Green Sea Turtle is by looking at its beak. They have a serrated lower jaw like a saw. This helps them to scrape off and eat seagrass and algae which is what they mostly feed on but sometimes they also eat jellyfish and other invertebrates.

CNMI SEA TURTLE ID

GREEN SEA TURTLE (*Chelonia mydas*)



2 prefrontal scales

4 lateral scales



serrated beak

Hawksbill turtles are named for their V-shaped beak which makes them look like a hawk. Their powerful and sharp beak helps them eat marine plants and animals like sea sponges, urchins, mollusks, and jellyfish.

They also have 4 prefrontal scales, 4 lateral scales and their scales overlap and are much more serrated and zig-zag like on the edges.

CNMI SEA TURTLE ID

HAWKSBILL TURTLE (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)



overlapping scales and serrated edges

V-shaped pointed beak



4 prefrontal scales

4 lateral scales

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Why should a driver's license be required for jobs that don't involve driving?

When Kirsten Bladh was searching for a job in urban planning she was surprised that nearly all the public sector listings she saw required a driver's license, even though these were largely office work positions and often located in communities that have lots of bike lanes and transit options.

This is not an unusual experience for job seekers in California. Requiring a driver's license seems to be a standard part of the screening process regardless of whether driving is necessary for the job. Even a bike mobility planning job in one Southern California city insisted that applicants have a license.

The requirement is not only arbitrary, it's discriminatory.

It unfairly closes off jobs to certain groups, including people with disabilities that prevent them from driving, young adults and low-income individuals who cannot afford a car or insurance, and people who choose not to drive for personal reasons.

Having a driver's license is irrelevant to a person's skills and capabilities. If a would-be employee is qualified, can reliably show up to the jobsite and do the work, why should it matter whether they drive?

Bladh, who is now associate director of state policy for Streets for All, decided to turn her frustration into legislation. The group worked with Sen. Anthony Portantino, D-Burbank, on a bill that would make it illegal under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act for employers to require that applicants have a driver's license unless the job includes driving.

Senate Bill 1100 is a smart change that has sailed through the Legislature so far with no opposition. That's good. California should be removing unnecessary barriers to employment.

The requirement for a driver's license is a particularly pernicious barrier because it can be used as a subtle way to screen candidates for income, race and socioeconomic status. It's expensive to own a car and pay for auto insurance in California, and proof of vehicle insurance is necessary to take a driver's test. And if people can't afford to own a car, there's less need for them to obtain a license to drive.

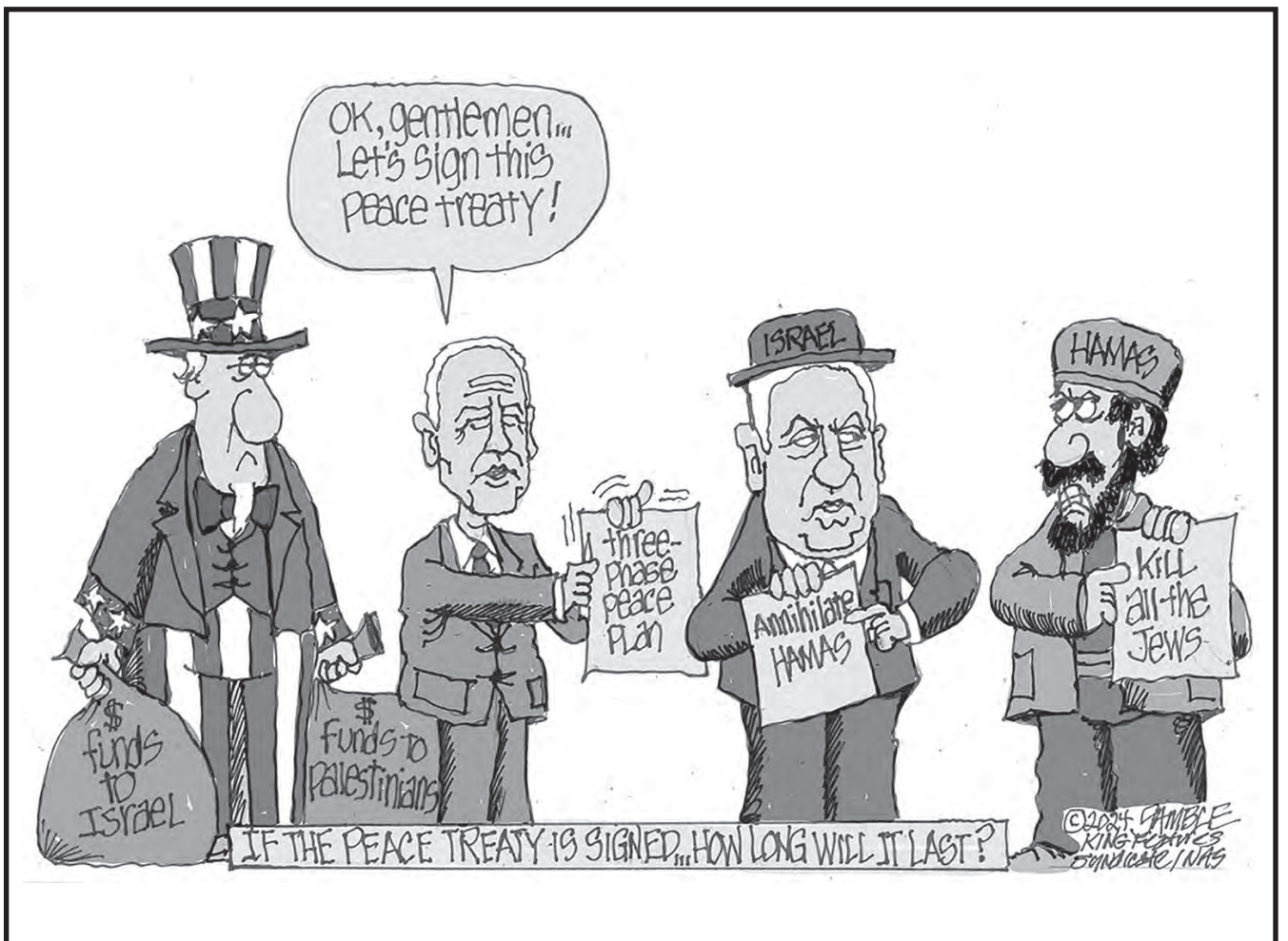
Studies have shown that Black and Latino drivers in California are more likely to have their licenses suspended because of unpaid tickets, which is fueled by the state's extraordinarily high fines and fees and racial profiling in traffic stops, according to California's Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board.

Plus, the driver's license requirement perpetuates the stereotype that a responsible adult is a driving adult. It encourages car dependency, which only worsens traffic and air pollution. Driving should be a choice, not a requirement in this day and age. And California is spending hundreds of millions of dollars a year building out transit, pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure so more people can safely and easily make the choice to get around without a car.

Bladh said she was particularly confounded to see so many urban planning jobs demanding a driver's license, when much of the work is to design modern cities to reduce people's reliance on cars.

"You'd think it would be a benefit to have someone who chooses to live car-free."

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This week's presidential debate has the makings of history

The first debate of the 2024 presidential race is an equal opportunity for disaster for both candidates.

Thursday's faceoff between former President Donald Trump and President Joe Biden could be a seismic moment. A wobble or two by Trump or Biden is likely. Wobbling is one thing. In this case, the ground may move under their feet.

This political junkie knows this event, to be aired on CNN, has the makings of history. History has been a friend to the presidential debates of the past. Richard Nixon was sweaty in 1960; in 1976, Gerald Ford claimed that Communist-led Poland was not under Soviet domination; and Trump loomed and hovered over Hillary Clinton on the stage in 2016. Those moments were American political theater, par excellence.

Given the checkered recent history of debates, the heads at CNN have toiled mightily to keep this one civil and substantive. The network is planning for tough moderators and no studio audience, and if a contestant blows through time limits, his microphone will be turned off.

Still, there remains a good chance that one of the candidates could implode, maybe even both.

There's a lot on the line. Last Friday, the latest average of national presidential polls tracked by FiveThirtyEight placed Biden and Trump neck and neck.

Trump versus Biden is a rematch ensconced in a grudge. Trump has never acknowledged that he lost the popular and electoral votes to Biden. He will not admit that he was justly convicted on 34 felony counts in a court of law. Why? When that question comes his way, how can Trump wrap that reality around a cogent reply?

Some say they expect Trump to punk out. "If I was a gambler — and I am a gambler — I'd take even money that Trump doesn't show up," Jim Carville declared last week on MSNBC.

"I wouldn't be shocked, but I certainly would not be surprised," added the former presidential adviser and Democratic strategist. "If you gave me even money, I'd say he's a no-show. He'll just get up that morning and say, 'I'm just not going to do it.'"

If so, it would be reminiscent of Trump's recent trial, in which Trump claimed he was eager to testify in his own defense against charges that he falsified business records to cover up a sex scandal that could have deep-sixed his 2016 presidential campaign. But when Trump had the chance to take the stand, he demurred. It's reminiscent of 2004, when Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry said he voted

By LAURA WASHINGTON

Chicago Tribune

Laura Washington is a political commentator and longtime Chicago journalist.



for \$87 billion in funding for the military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan — before he voted against it.

Trump must also grapple with his lack of policy chops. That's never been a problem for his avid supporters, but that deficiency could take on an outsize importance when many voters will be looking for substance. Details have never been Trump's strong suit, but he will need to command them on the debate stage.

The facts can make even a strong man appear supercilious. Trump enjoys a robust demeanor, which works well on the stump, but in this case, quick thinking is advantage one.

For Biden, this debate is critical. If Trump rattles Biden, he may falter. Watch for stammering, verbal slips or brain freezes, a la Mitch McConnell. If Biden does not show up strong, he may not make it past the Democratic convention.

At 81, Joltin' Joe Biden ain't jolting anymore. Trump has eagerly pointed that out, countless times.

Biden is not going to win any awards for fancy footwork at the lectern. But he will need to be steady-as-he-goes Joe. Be feisty, be aggressive and duck Trump's haymakers.

Earlier this year, Democrats were out of their minds with worry ahead of the State of the Union address in February. Biden delivered a strong, confident and powerful speech, and now his allies are pointing to that as a model for the debate performance. If the president can duplicate that performance, he has a good chance to end the debate on his feet. At the debate, however, there will be no teleprompter, no script and no applause from the partisans in the audience.

Trump will go to great lengths to rattle his opponent. Trump will be Smokin' Joe Frazier coming after Muhammad Ali.

Can you imagine Biden floating like a butterfly and stinging like a bee?

Then again, the whole affair might be a dud. That would be a good thing for both. No gain, no pain.

The Biden-Trump debate will be a demolition derby. But will it change the race?

This week's debate between President Joe Biden and Donald Trump won't produce much in the way of civil dialogue over the nation's future. It's more likely to resemble a demolition derby, with each contestant trying to knock the other off course.

And, let's face it, many viewers will tune in mainly for the crashes.

The question isn't who will win that series of collisions—it's who will lose.

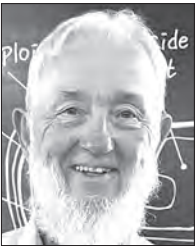
Presidential debates rarely transform an election. But Thursday's showdown could change the momentum in this year's contest—mostly because the stakes for Biden are so high.

The president is running about even with Trump in national polls, but he's behind in the battleground states that will determine the outcome. He's also battling the view among many voters in both parties that he's too old to serve effectively for

June is African American Music Appreciation Month

LITERARY NOOK
By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey aka "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. Joey is the Poet Laureate of Tinian, celebrating 40 years in the CNMI.

DO YOU REMEMBER CHUCK D?

June is African American Music Appreciation Month. Created by President Jimmy Carter in 1979, this month celebrates the African American musical influences that comprise an essential part of our nation's treasured cultural heritage, it was formerly called National Black Music Month. Major genres of African American music are: Sacred Music (Gospel), Folk Music, Blues, Jazz, Rhythm and Blues, Rock and Roll, Hip Hop, and Rap.

"In addition to these genres mentioned above African American musicians and artists have also developed and influenced (names in parentheses are examples placed by me) classical (Wynton Marsalis), C&W (Charlie Pride, J-Lo), Pop music, (Michael Jackson), dance music, ballet, disco, techno and house." quoted from the National Museum of African American History and Culture, part of the Smithsonian. Here's a personal list of a few female musicians from genres listed above, readers might enjoy: Nina Simone, Mahalia Jackson, Ella Fitzgerald, the Georgia Freedom Singers, the Staple Singers, Shirley Cleveland, Sweet Emma Barrett, Big Mama Thornton, Irma Thomas, Vivian Greene, Aretha Franklin, Dionne Warwick, Tina Turner, and Sister Rosetta Tharpe.

'Oh Freedom' is an African American spiritual that was commonly sung as a part of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. It was made popular by human rights activist and singer Odetta. 'Oh freedom! Oh freedom! Oh freedom over me! (chorus) And before I'd be a slave, I'll be buried in my grave and go home to my Lord and be free.'

No more moanin, no more moanin, (repeat chorus)
There'll be singin, there'll be singin, (repeat chorus)
There'll be shoutin, there'll be shoutin, (repeat chorus)
(repeat Oh Freedom, Oh Freedom... the first line and chorus)'.

The history of African American music is rich and varied. It is very much alive and vibrant. It's a billion-dollar business. Youth poet laureate Amanda Gorman read a powerful poem at the Biden inauguration in 2021. Today, 06/26/24, President Biden named rapper Chuck D as a U.S. Music Ambassador. Chuck D says he learned from Bob Marley, Bob Dylan, and Bobbie Womack. Next week look for a villanelle about hip hop and Spoonie Gee.

another four years.

Republicans have waged a relentless campaign to stoke those doubts. Biden "can't put two sentences together," the former president told supporters last month. "He can't find the stairs off the stage."

That's a pretty low bar for Biden to clear. Last week, Trump belatedly realized his mistake and tried to reverse course, calling the president "a worthy debater."

"I don't want to underestimate him," he explained.

Either way, the 90-minute debate will give the 81-year-old president an opportunity to show that he can not only find the stairs but think on his feet as well. If Biden doesn't visibly pass that test, his campaign will have a hard time recovering.

Trump, who is 78, faces challenges too.

In his first debate against Biden in 2020, the then-president behaved like a disruptive bully and promptly dropped four points in the polls.

A similarly chaotic performance this week in Atlanta would help revive the anti-Trump coalition of voters that fired him last time.

If Trump blunders badly—he has been known to lapse into incoherence and confuse Biden with former President Obama—he too would face renewed questions about his mental fitness.

Again, the question isn't so much who will win but who will lose. Candidates fail in debates by stumbling more often than they triumph through brilliant wordplay.

So the stakes are high for both candidates. The incentive will be to go on the attack, to try to push the other guy toward disaster.

The debate, hosted by CNN with correspondents Jake Tapper and Dana Bash as moderators, will spare viewers the tedium of opening statements. There will be no live audience, a demand Biden's side made after witnessing the noisy enthusiasm of Trump supporters at earlier events. Each candidate's microphone will be silenced while the other is speaking, in an attempt to avoid a repeat of the 2020 debate, when Trump constantly interrupted Biden and the moderators.

I asked strategists from both parties what advice they would give each candidate.

Biden's first task is to "demonstrate that he's not too old to serve another term," said Doug Sosnik, who advised President Clinton during his 1996 reelection campaign.

After that, Sosnik said, Biden "needs to have a clear narrative about his presidency, what his goals would be for a second term. And then he can go after Trump."

Republican strategist Alex Conant agreed that Biden should try to steer the debate toward the future and away from a referendum on his stewardship of the economy, which has left most voters dissatisfied.

"He needs to make the debate about abortion and everything else Trump doesn't want to talk about," Conant said.

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times



Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.

"He should try to provoke Trump into overreacting ... then get out of the way and let Trump destroy himself."

One pitfall Biden needs to avoid: boasting about legislation he has passed or trying to convince voters that the economy is better than they think.

"He has to prosecute his political case against Donald Trump and not get bogged down, as incumbents often do ... in defending his record," said David Axelrod, who advised Obama during his 2012 reelection campaign.

Trump's goals, no surprise, are pretty much the reverse of Biden's. He wants to make the election a referendum on Biden's first three years.

"My advice to Trump would be: 'You are going to win this race on two issues: inflation and immigration. Those are the only two things you should be talking about,'" Conant said.

If the moderators or Biden ask Trump about his conviction on 34 felony charges in New York state, "he doesn't need to engage in it," Conant said.

Sosnik agreed. "Stick to a referendum," he said. "Were you better off during [Trump's] presidency or Biden's?"

The hazard Trump needs to avoid: lapsing into complaints about the 2020 election, his conviction or his three pending criminal cases. That would reinforce the appearance "that he is only out for himself and settling old personal scores ... [and] reminding people how chaotic and exhausting his presidency was," Sosnik said.

So will Thursday's debate change the direction of the race? Conant, the Republican, thinks it could.

"This is the most consequential debate we've had in recent memory," he said. "Voters have major questions about each candidate. There's an unusual number of undecided or third-party voters who might still be movable. If one of the candidates has a really bad night, that could be decisive."

But Sosnik is skeptical that many undecided voters will bother watching "a debate between two candidates they dislike."

"It will take a big moment where one of the candidates falls on his face to make it a game changer," he said.

With four months remaining before election day, one evening in June won't determine the winner. But Thursday could provide a pivotal moment—depending not on which candidate performs better but which performs worse.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Celebrating community commitment this 4th of July

As the postmaster of Saipan, I am writing to express the unwavering commitment of our postal staff to serving our wonderful community. With the 4th of July approaching, a time when we celebrate our nation's independence and the freedoms we cherish, it is also a fitting moment to reflect on the values that bind us together.

The Postal Service has been an integral part of American life for centuries, connecting people across vast distances, facilitating communication and commerce. Here on Saipan, my team and I take immense pride in continuing this tradition. Our dedication goes beyond simply delivering mail and packages; it extends to being a reliable and supportive presence in our community.

Every day, our staff works diligently to ensure that your letters, packages, and essential communications reach their destinations promptly and securely. We understand that the trust you place in us is vital, and we strive to uphold that

trust through our hard work and dedication.






As we celebrate Independence Day, let us also celebrate the spirit of community and the importance of staying connected. The 4th of July is a reminder of the strength and resilience that define our nation. It is these same qualities that our postal employees embody each day as they serve you.

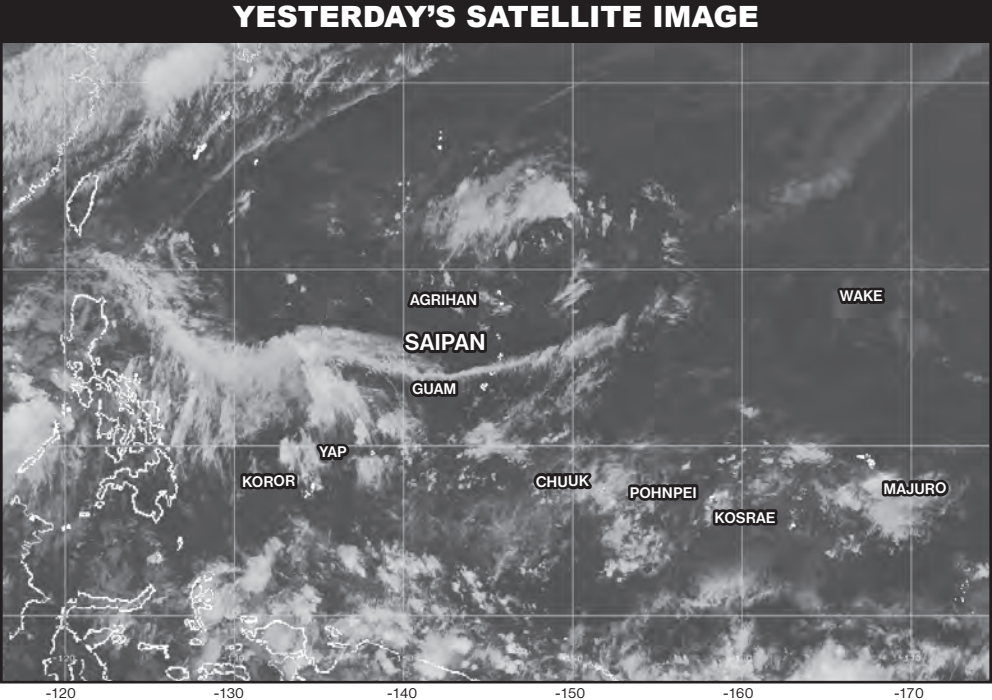
We are honored to be a part of this community and to contribute to its well-being. On behalf of the entire postal staff, I wish you all a joyful and safe 4th of July. Let us come together to celebrate not only our nation's independence but also the unity and dedication that make Saipan a special place to live. Biba Marianas!

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Harry Wilcox, postmaster
Saipan Post Office
Saipan, CNMI

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.		Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.	
88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°



PICTURE TIME: 7:19 AM THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows partly sunny skies and isolated showers over the Marianas Waters today. An upper-level low is seen to the north which is triggering isolated thunderstorms north of Anatahan and south of the Marianas Waters.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 80°	
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 78°	
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 80°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 78°	
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	11:32 AM	-
Saturday	12:00 AM	12:28 PM	-
Sunday	12:40 AM	1:24 PM	-
Monday	1:22 AM	2:21 PM	-
Tuesday	2:06 AM	3:21 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	59° / 52°	
Beijing	Fair	98° / 78°	
Hong Kong	Fair	90° / 81°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 74°	
London	Cloudy	72° / 57°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	70° / 59°	
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	92° / 80°	
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	57° / 43°	
Miami	Showers	85° / 76°	
New York	Rain	90° / 70°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	82° / 72°	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	73° / 59°	
Busan	Rain	75° / 66°	
Rome	Thunderstorm	88° / 66°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	93° / 73°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 54°	
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 65°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°	
Washington, DC	Showers	98° / 72°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:58 AM	High Tide	2.18	
7:11 AM	Low Tide	1.17	
11:55 AM	High Tide	1.77	
6:43 PM	Low Tide	0.39	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2024				
DEPARTURES				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5	
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily	
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				
HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5	

ARRIVALS				
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily	
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7	
MANILA (MNL)-GUAM				
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily	
UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7	
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau	
UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5	
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam	
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam	
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam	
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily	
INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN				
7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily	
TW307	8:15PM	1:40AM+1	Daily	
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily	
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7	

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday
GUAM TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

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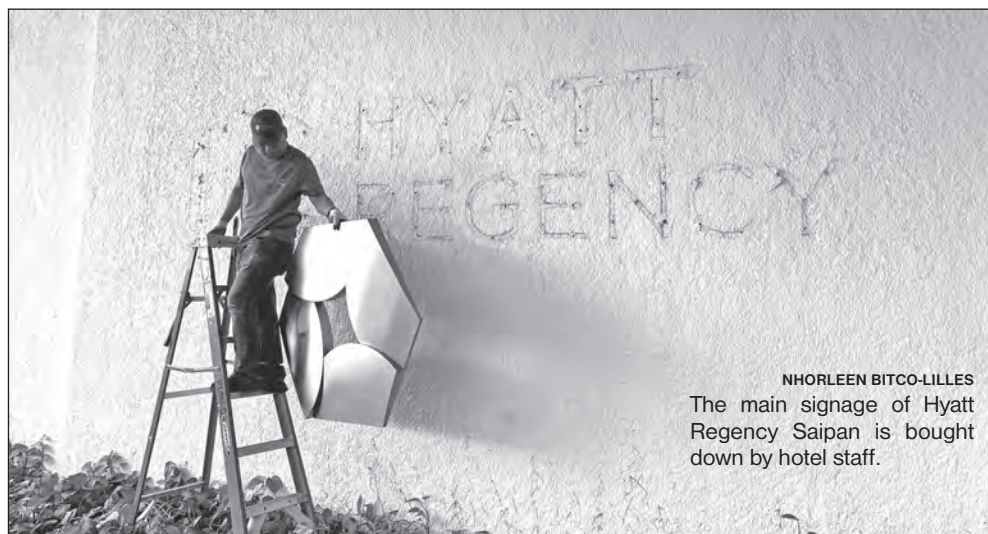
Honoring 43 years of Hyatt Regency Saipan's legacy

By **NHORLEEN BITCO-LILLES**
Special to Saipan Tribune

For 43 remarkable years, the Hyatt Regency Saipan has been more than just a hotel; it has been a cornerstone of the CNMI community. As we pay tribute to this iconic establishment, we reflect on its impact and unwavering commitment to service. The Hyatt Regency Saipan has provided 5-star world-class hospitality and comfort to countless visitors and also actively engaged in and supported numerous events that have shaped the local culture and economy. From hosting countless celebrations, weddings, graduations, awards, and international conferences to participating in community outreach, health and wellness, and environmental initiatives, the Hyatt Regency Saipan has demonstrated an enduring dedication to the people of the CNMI. Its legacy is woven into the very fabric of the community, leaving an indelible mark that will be remembered for generations to come. So much so that when Saipan Tribune spoke with the current marketing manager Bea O'Malley, we learned that Hyatt has either partnered, helped, or has connections to nearly every company and organization in the CNMI.

I recall with fondness the time when Hyatt Regency Saipan enlisted me to illustrate an environmentally themed coloring book tailored for grade school students, specifically those in the CNMI public school system, as part of their I Care initiatives, alongside then marketing manager Luis Villagomez, then assistant marketing communications manager Claudine Camacho and co-authors Dr. Bobby Cruz and Lynette Villagomez. Our involvement continued beyond putting the book together and distributing it. Alongside the Hyatt management and staff, I had the privilege of visiting classrooms, where we had the opportunity to read to the eager young minds. This initiative epitomized genuine community service, showing Hyatt's sincere commitment to the environment as well as enriching the lives of the children, fostering a love for learning, and overall care for the community.

Aside from that, we will surely miss Hyatt's annual New Year's Eve fireworks display—a cherished tradition for my family and me. Each year, we join other families, coming together to marvel at the spectacular show as we welcome the new year. Many of our special occasions and milestones were celebrated



NHORLEEN BITCO-LILLES
The main signage of Hyatt Regency Saipan is bought down by hotel staff.

at the Kili Cafe & Terrace or Giovanni's, while a lot of Christmas parties and ceremonies I have attended have been held at the Hyatt Ballroom or poolside near the garden. Ahh, the garden, don't get me started on the garden with that white gazebo sitting in the middle of that picturesque landscape—it is truly one of my favorites.

Surely, I am not alone in my fond memories of Hyatt Regency Saipan, so we asked people from our beloved community to share their cherished memories and expressions of appreciation. Here they are:

My immediate message to the Hyatt Regency has to be Si Yu'us Ma'ase for staying with us—the people of the CNMI—for forty-four years. You have become a household name in the CNMI and a favorite for many, many visitors. It has been a long-standing relationship and we are truly saddened to see Hyatt Regency go, but we know your efforts and hard work that went into making this decision.

No matter the circumstances that brought us here, nostalgia will keep the name Hyatt Regency dear and special to the hearts of thousands of visitors and residents that made Hyatt Regency their home and place for special occasions and social gatherings.

I am one of many thousands to forever miss Hyatt Regency and all the wonderful and close friends that built it into the best hotel in the CNMI. As seasons change so too could decisions and it is my wish that Hyatt Regency will return to the CNMI one day. Si Yu'us Ma'ase for all the great memories. You will remain a friend forever.

—**Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang**

Many special occasions and business functions have been held at the Hyatt. Lots of warm memories will forever be cherished and etched in our hearts including years of

friendships with its staff and management with always a warm first-name greeting. Hyatt Regency Saipan has been there for the entire community, our children were born and grew up with and knowing Hyatt Regency Saipan. Thank you Hyatt Regency Saipan and you will be greatly missed.

—**Senate President Edith DeLeon Guerrero**

With profound gratitude, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce bids farewell to Hyatt Regency Saipan, an esteemed Chamber member for 33 years. We are blessed by their countless contributions to the Chamber, from generous donations to hosting our events to countless hours Hyatt management served as Board members, it has been an honor to have Hyatt as a part of our organization. Their contributions and presence in our Saipan community have left an indelible mark, and they will be greatly missed.

To Hyatt Regency Saipan, si Yu'us ma'asi' for your years of dedication, service, and hospitality. We wish all the staff and management of Hyatt Regency Saipan the best in your future endeavors.

—**Joe Guerrero, board president, Saipan Chamber of Commerce**

The Hyatt Regency Saipan is our oldest international branded hotel in the Marianas. They occupy an important part of our history as they began operations just a few years after the birth of our Commonwealth, witnessed the boom years of the 80s and the 90s, weathered the storm throughout the early 2000s, saw another period of growth more recently with the increase in arrivals from China, Korea, and other markets, and persevered throughout our darkest days of the COVID-19 pandemic. On behalf of the Marianas Visitors Authority, we extend our sincere gratitude to the Kobe Portopia Group and the entire team at Hyatt

Regency Saipan for over 40 years of believing in Saipan and the Marianas. They have been a dedicated partner in promoting our islands to the world. We would like to especially thank and recognize all the former general managers, directors, managers, and staff of the Hyatt Regency Saipan for their partnership and dedication. We wish everyone the best as we continue to move our tourism industry forward into the future.

—**Christopher A. Conception, managing director, Marianas Visitors Authority**

Ted and I celebrated our preelopement party in Giovanni's private room with friends in 1992. We also had a favorite booth near the back where we would celebrate our anniversaries. When we were dating, we would go out on hikes around the island and come back to the Hyatt to enjoy the spa and pool. Also, it was Ted and I who commissioned then-resident painter, the late Connie Adams, to paint us a double hibiscus painting as a wedding gift to each other. This was the first of the series. It was what inspired the two large watercolors, one of which features a CNMI flower, the hibiscus, which was prominently displayed in the hotel's lobby for an extended period. Connie Adam's art beautifully captured the essence of island life as she personally experienced it while living on Saipan. Hyatt's recognition and support of local artists like Connie showcased their belief in the power of these beautiful creations. Today, Connie's paintings continue to adorn the walls of Hyatt, leaving everyone in awe as they resonate with the breathtaking beauty of Saipan.

—**Kathy Yuknavage, co-owner of Brabu Pharmacy**

So many memories of Hyatt happenings ... wouldn't know where to begin, but I have to say that their Sunday Champagne Brunch was always the

highlight of our week and not to be missed. We always were satiated with fabulous food, friendship, and champagne!

—**Lynn Lemieux, former federal court clerk**

Friday night beach bars have been a family staple for years! We will miss the food, the ambiance, and the great service by Darwin and the team! We raised our children at the Hyatt beach and we are devastated to see it go. Thank you for all the memories!

—**Dr. Beylul Solomon, professor, Northern Marianas College**

"Hyatt Regency Saipan's closure stunned me. So much fond memories with the hotel particularly with their disco before. I featured Hyatt twice before on my YouTube channel Cebuano's Journey. One was Hyatt at night and the other was their annual Christmas tree lighting. One thing I believe is sure, care is the heart of their business."

—**Ferdie De La Torre, former Saipan Tribune senior reporter, owner of Cebuano's Journey YouTube Channel.**

For many years, the Hyatt Regency Saipan has been more than just a place to stay—it has been a cornerstone of the island community, a venue for cherished memories, and a hub for both locals and visitors from around the world. As the former marketing manager of the Hyatt Regency Saipan, I have had the immense pleasure of supporting the coordination of a wide array of monthly events that brought joy and unity to our guests and the community. From vibrant themed parties, employee gatherings, and golf tournaments to meaningful community engagement and donation support initiatives, we strived to make each moment memorable.

Much of the hotel's success and rich history is because of the unwavering support from the Saipan community. In event participation, patronage, and heartfelt smiles of pure enjoyment, that, in my belief, is the legacy of the Hyatt Regency Saipan Hotel. As a team member, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve the community and to be a part of the memories. To the incredible team at the Hyatt Regency Saipan: Your hard work, passion, and commitment have been the backbone of the hotel. Each of us contributed to the warm and welcoming atmosphere that our guests have come to love. Thank you for your outstanding service and for creating a home away from home for not only our guests but for our colleagues as well.

As Hyatt Regency Saipan prepares to close its doors,

may we reflect on the countless memories made on hotel grounds. The laughter, the celebrations, the milestones—all of these moments are a testament to the bond we share with the beautiful island and our people. We will forever cherish the time we've spent together and the memories we've created. Thank you, Saipan, for making our journey so special. With heartfelt gratitude,

—**Maria Valentina Haberman, former marketing manager of Hyatt Regency Saipan**

Thank you for the warm hospitality, exceptional food, and memorable experiences over the years. Your dedicated staff and beautiful location made every visit special, especially the annual fireworks display that became a cherished tradition for many in the CNMI community. Your presence will be greatly missed.

—**Zowie Cruz, Miss Northern Marianas Earth 2023**

Hyatt Regency Saipan has been a wonderful support for us at the Saipan Humane Society, and animals on Saipan as a whole. From donating sheets that brought comfort to many of our animals, to hosting events to help raise awareness and funds, they've done it all. One of our favorite memories is working together to safely relocate their beloved Macaw, Sky, to Guam Hyatt—a great example of their care and commitment.

—**Lauren Cabrera, Saipan Humane Society founder and executive director**

Thanks and best wishes from 500 Sails. Dear Hyatt Saipan Team, on behalf of everyone at 500 Sails, we want to extend our deepest gratitude for the invaluable support and partnership you have provided us over the years. Your assistance was instrumental in jumpstarting our Beach Canoe project, allowing us to bring the authentic Chamorro canoe ride and culture to life for many to experience. As you transition away from the closing of the hotel, please know that your contributions have left a lasting impact on our community and our mission. We will forever be grateful for the generosity and enthusiasm you have shown towards 500 Sails. Your legacy will continue to sail strong with us. We wish each of you the very best in your future endeavors. May your new paths be filled with success and fulfillment. With heartfelt thanks. The 500 Sails Team

After 43 years of exemplary service, the closure of Hyatt Regency Saipan marks a heartfelt moment for our island community. Hyatt has

See **HYATT** on Page 14



HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN SAYS THANK YOU AND GOOD BYE.
Si Yu'us ma'ase yan adios ginen i Hyatt Regency Saipan!

We are humbly proud for 43 years of "You're more than welcome"
and being a part of your memories. It was a privilege to serve you.

*Man sen magof ham nui man hita gi esti kuarenta-tres anos na memorias.
Si Yu'us ma'ase ni esti na seitbisio yan prubilehu ni un na'i ham!*



**HYATT
REGENCY**
SAIPAN

HYATT

From page 11

been a cornerstone of Saipan's tourism, setting a standard for hospitality and creating countless cherished memories for both residents and visitors. Additionally, we recognize the tremendous support Hyatt has provided to the many vendors of Saipan through their extraordinary purchasing power. Triple J is deeply grateful for this long-term business relationship. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated staff and management for their unwavering commitment and exceptional service. Thank you for your lasting legacy and impact on our community."

—Robert H. Jones, chairman and CEO, Triple J Saipan, Inc.

■■■

The Hyatt represents countless memories of anniversaries and birthdays, welcomes and farewells, crying over break-ups and spilling tea about new loves, Mother's and Father's Day celebrations, sharing tea with staff who became family while enjoying delicious food and exceptional hospitality. While I will definitely miss the food, I will miss seeing the people who work there who have become friends over the years.

—Kimberlyn King-Hinds, attorney-at-law

■■■

As the Hyatt Regency Saipan prepares to close its doors at the end of the month, we pause to reflect on the many cherished memories that this iconic establishment has gifted us over the years. From childhood swimming lessons with the American Red Cross and tennis lessons with Ron Estrada where we learned to play King of Hill for small prizes to the thrill of the Menuendo concert in the early 90s, the Hyatt has been a special part of our lives.

The Hyatt was also the venue for many joyous occasions, including the weddings of family and special friends. We gathered for island dinner shows at Gilligan's, New Year's Eve countdown parties, and beloved traditions like Easter brunches at Giovanni's, where we also celebrated special birthdays, graduation, and christening parties. Each event, whether lunches or dinners at the Kili Terrace and the Miyako or Make-A-Wish White Parties at the poolside, showcased the Hyatt's dedication to making every moment extraordinary.

As we bid farewell to the Hyatt, we do so with feelings of sadness and gratitude. Thank you, Hyatt Regency Saipan, for the years of service, the memories, and the magic! You will always hold a special place in our hearts, and

your legacy will live on in the stories we tell and the memories we cherish.

—Carline B. Sablan, Project Management director of TanHoldings

■■■

Hyatt is at the heart of our family's most cherished memories over the passing decades. My parents' first date was at Hyatt, and later, so were their wedding photos. As children, my brother and I spent countless idyllic days of summer at the swimming pools, sharing fries and celebrating birthday parties with old friends.

We fondly remember the time he found the golden egg in the gardens during the Easter egg hunt, and we loved to feed the fish in the ponds bread from the buffet. It feels like any occasion there was to celebrate, Hyatt was our premier choice. My sweet 16 was the first of its kind held at the Sand Castle other than its magic show.

Eight years later, I was crowned Miss Northern Marianas in its ballroom, that beautiful moment captured in photos with my overjoyed family. Not only was my first date with my partner at Hyatt, our family was a regular sight like clockwork at the Sunday brunch. Hyatt was our gathering place—and my safe place.

Whenever I was affected by strong currents in life, I would often visit the swings at Hyatt to reflect. It was fitting that as our earliest memories were frequenting its facilities, our family was present to enjoy its heartfelt last Sunday brunch at Giovanni's, and their very last dinner at Miyako. We will forever miss Hyatt deep in our hearts and minds. We commend Hyatt for being such a loved institution in our community and look forward to new beginnings. Mahalo Nui Loa Savannah

—Lyn R. Delos Santos and family, 2021 Miss Northern Marianas

■■■

Center for Living Independently in the CNMI is proud to be a part of Hyatt's extended family. Hyatt did a lot for the disability community in the CNMI: Hyatt's HR former director Miss Josephine Mesta was diligent about training and hiring people with disabilities, Hyatt's staff was often on boards for the disability community. Whenever Hyatt had an excess of supplies or changed the décor for rooms, they would always think of the CNMI disability community. Even as they are closing their doors, they are calling CLI-CNMI to pick up donations CLI has been a recipient of some of Hyatt's fundraising activities. It is with great sadness Hyatt is leaving the CNMI. A big Thank Hyatt's disability community support.

—Susan Satur, executive

director, Center for Living Independently in the CNMI

■■■

On behalf of the board of directors, management, staff, and hundreds of volunteers at the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, we would like to express our most heartfelt appreciation to the Hyatt Regency Saipan for advancing environmental stewardship in the CNMI through their participation in MINA's programs through the years. Words cannot express how deeply saddened we all were to learn of the closure of Hyatt's doors for good on June 30, 2024. Their exemplary contributions to this community's efforts in conserving the island's limited natural resources will not be forgotten as we all forge ahead for a better future.

On a personal note, MINA executive director, Roberta Guerrero, shared memories of her family's many fortunate opportunities to celebrate birthdays, wedding receptions, Holy Communion and Confirmation celebrations, the many Sunday family brunches, and hosting visitors from around the world at the Hyatt. At the top of the list of all these events was the ever-present hospitality extended to guests by the Management and entire staff of the Hyatt who always made us feel welcome and a part of the Hyatt family.

It is truly an honor to pay tribute to the Hyatt Regency Saipan for more than forty years of opening their doors to the community and sharing the spirit of "Un Korason" for TaoTao Marianas. UIn Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase yan Ghilisow.

—Mariana Islands Nature Alliance

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On behalf of McDonald's of Saipan, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Hyatt Regency Saipan for 43 remarkable years of service and dedication to our community. Your contributions have not only enriched the lives of countless guests but have also played a pivotal role in the growth and development of Saipan's tourism and hospitality sectors.

Hyatt Regency Saipan has been more than just a hotel; it has been a cherished part of our island's heritage, a place where unforgettable memories have been made, and life's special moments celebrated. Your unwavering commitment to excellence and community spirit will always be remembered and appreciated.

As you close this chapter, we want to express our deepest thanks to the entire Hyatt team, past and present, for their hard work, dedication, and the warmth they have shared with our community. We wish all associates the very best in their future endeavors and support them through this

transition.

Thank you, Hyatt Regency Saipan, for being a cornerstone of our community for over four decades. You will be missed but never forgotten.

—McDonald's of Saipan

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For many of us, Hyatt Regency Saipan was not just a hotel—it was a place where birthdays were celebrated, where wedding vows were read, and where careers were built. Just as we connect you to the things that matter most, Hyatt Regency Saipan connected us with the world by showcasing their international-level customer service throughout their 43 years of serving our islands. Although we are incredibly heartbroken to bid farewell to this landmark property, we are grateful for the partnership that we have built over the years. Thank you, Hyatt Regency Saipan.

—Docomo Pacific.

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Thank you for all the memories, Hyatt Regency Saipan: graveyard nights, celebrating our people, Golf Classic, birthday lunches at Isla, tree lighting events, photo shoots, and, above all, the amazing friendships I have gained over the years. Thank you to all my mentors, especially Mrs. Josephine Mesta—you showed us our value as people. I wouldn't be where I am today without the HRS team. I thank the owners for their devotion to our island. Although you may be closing doors, the memories will live on forever.

—Luis Villagomez, former Marketing manager, Hyatt Regency Saipan

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I had the awesome opportunity to work in the CNMI's most fun hotel—Hyatt Regency Saipan! Everyone always told me that they loved my job and that they too wanted to host familiarization media dinners, eat delicious foods, travel, and help create spectacular events.

I hail from Hyatt Regency Saipan's Class of 2014 as assistant marketing communications manager or as the corporation affectionately nicknamed it the "marcom." As fun as it appeared, what they did not see was the many hours of planning, meeting, dedication, heart, sweat, and tears that took to keep aligned with the company's core values, customer base, and overall mission. Yes, I got to be a part of the two super typhoons, annual Christmas tree lighting ceremonies, collaboration of the first environmental awareness coloring book, golf tournaments that gave back to the community, golf tournament teasers, New Year's Eve celebrations, most fun employee parties, wonderful work family and sweetest general man-

ager Nick Nishikawa!!!

Although I do not hold a prestigious college degree, I was given a spectacular opportunity and experience because I have a positive personality, creative insight, and dedicated heart that made me enjoy every day at my post! It was never work because I definitely enjoyed every moment of being a part of Hyatt Regency Saipan! I am glad to have been a part of the wonderful history of the CNMI. I want to take a brief moment to thank my mentor and now lifetime friend, Luis Villagomez who took me and taught me the walk and talk at HRS. I also want to thank Mrs. Josephine Mesta for believing in me and giving me the truest opportunity to work at the most fun job of my life. Denise and Penny who kept me on the straight and narrow and Nick Nishikawa who is the sweetest human being of a general manager! He was the fierce leader who kept our hotel family safe, humble, and filled with joy! Thank you to my Hyatt Regency Saipan crew for all the forever memories!

—Claudine Camacho, former assistant marketing communications manager, Hyatt Regency Saipan

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It's sad to see such a beautiful piece of history leave the island. I recall my first time walking in the Hyatt. I was amazed at the beautiful flora and fauna that surrounded the garden areas and ponds of fish with the architecture that made you feel that I was walking in "Wonderland." It was a magical place.

But it didn't stop there. I sat down to an Italian lunch buffet that rivaled Little Italy. My first Thanksgiving in the CNMI was sharing dinner with my future bride-to-be. I wasn't sure of the authenticity of a mainland in the islands. However, the blending of cultures and cuisine was so spectacular, that we revisited the venue several times.

The many styles of cuisine, atmosphere, and over-the-top presentation of hospitality have been unmistakably the best in the Marianas.

Thank you for sharing your humanity and hospitality with me and the hundreds of thousands of visitors throughout the world.

Very sad that circumstances failed to see your worth economically and socially for the citizens of CNMI. You surely will be missed!

—Dr. Tai D. Doram, Learning and Behavior specialist, PSS

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IT&E has been privileged to be a part of Hyatt Regency Saipan's journey as its internet service provider. Since we first became partners in fostering meaningful connections, their

commitment to quality and customer satisfaction has set them apart in their industry.

For more than four decades, the Hyatt Regency Saipan has been a pillar of excellence and dedication. Not only has the organization achieved business success, but it has also enriched the lives of its guests, patrons, employees, and partners.

The legacy of the Hyatt Regency Saipan will continue to live on in the hearts and minds of those that had the honor to serve and be served by the staff and management.

—IT&E

■■■

Opened DJ's Corner in 1999 and closed it in 2024. Goodbye, my baby DJ's Corner at Hyatt Regency Saipan. My heart is broken. Thank you for the opportunity and the best memories. I am forever grateful.

—Debbie Dela Paz of DJ's Corner, Hyatt Regency Saipan

■■■

I will certainly remember the wonderful things about my time at Hyatt Regency Saipan, especially the amazing colleagues I had the pleasure of working with. The dedication and hard work of every member of the team, and their continuous focus on the well-being of the guests, truly made a difference. Regardless of the day, the warm smiles and welcoming "Hafa Adai" greetings never failed to lift spirits.

—Bea O'Malley, Marketing & Communications manager, Hyatt Regency Saipan

■■■

Saipan Tribune would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the Hyatt Regency Saipan for your decades of unwavering support and partnership. Your loyalty as an advertiser has been instrumental in our growth and success, and we are profoundly grateful for your long-standing commitment.

Over the years, the collaboration between the Hyatt Regency Saipan and the *Saipan Tribune* has been more than just a business relationship; it has been a true partnership that has enriched our community. Your support has enabled us to deliver quality news and information to our readers, and for that, we are sincerely thankful.

As you move forward, please know that you will be deeply missed. Your presence and partnership have left an unforgettable mark on the *Saipan Tribune*, and we will always cherish the memories and successes we have shared.

Thank you once again for your trust, support, and friendship. We wish you all the best from the bottom of our hearts! Si Yu'us Maase, Arigato gozaimasu, Thank you! 'Til we meet again!

—*Saipan Tribune* team

‘Walk Down Memory Lane’ at mini museum

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

On June 13, Hyatt Regency Saipan opened its exhibit dubbed “Walk Down Memory Lane” as it approached its closure on June 30. The Hyatt Regency’s art lobby is where you can find the mini museum, which is open from 10am to 10pm.

A display stand, positioned on the right side of the door before entering the exhibit, is where you can read how Hyatt Regency Saipan has redefined paradise through their four

decades of existence on the island, which is characterized by trustworthiness, approachability, and vision. The Hyatt Regency Saipan opened in the early 1980s, becoming one of the first major international hotel chains to establish a presence on the island.

Hyatt Regency Saipan’s evolution since opening in the early ’80s was showcased through color and black and white photo collages in the exhibit.

Walk down the memory lane of Hyatt Regency Saipan’s collection of photos, from its founding and early

years, to how the hotel sets standards through innovative hospitality practices, their tenured employees, collection of flyers they have printed, to what high-profile events it has hosted and the airlines it has partnered with.

Get to know the general managers who embodied Hyatt Regency Saipan’s brand experience and culture, and see the display of the “Hyatt Hylights,” an inter-company newsletter during the hotel’s early years, as well as the cut-out press releases from *Pacific Daily News*. Collection of tro-

phies, plaques, and certificates can also be seen.

Bea O’Malley, the Marketing and Communications manager, said that it took them three weeks to collect the materials to be displayed in the exhibit.

“Over three weeks, we meticulously sifted through hundreds of photos and curated a display that tells the rich story of Hyatt Regency Saipan and its place on the island. In the weeks leading up to the opening, we delved into the archives, uncovering photographs and memorabilia that spanned the hotel’s illustrious history. Each image was carefully chosen to represent the

essence of our journey—from the beginning in Dec. 1, 1980 to today, over four decades of Hyatt’s hospitality. Our aim was to capture not just the milestones of the Hyatt Regency Saipan but also the spirit and memories that have made it a beloved destination.”

O’Malley added that since the mini museum opened, they have been receiving positive reactions from both former and current employees, guests, and community members who have visited. “When former employees see themselves in the photos, it stirs a flood of cherished memories. Hearing their stories and reflections is always deeply touching.

Often, these moments bring tears to their eyes—not of sadness, but of joy. These are the tears of people who feel proud and grateful to have been part of the Hyatt family. It’s a great reminder of the lasting bonds and the profound impact their time at Hyatt Regency Saipan has had on their lives,” she said.

Today is the final day for everyone to see Hyatt’s Walk Down the Memory Lane mini museum. O’Malley still encourages former employees and the community to visit the exhibit, saying that it is a heartfelt reminder of their contributions that are forever etched in the history of Hyatt Regency Saipan.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIIMPORTS.COM



DESIGN/BUILD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A VEHICULAR RAMP ROTA WEST HARBOR COMMERCIAL MARINA, ROTA, CNMI
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-009-24

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the “CPA”) is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (the “RFP”) and other contract provisions, for awarding a Design/Build Vehicular Ramp construction project at the Rota West Harbor Commercial Marina, Rota, CNMI. The Design/Build RFP Package and other considerations will be available for pick up beginning **June 21, 2024**, upon payment of \$200.00 in cash, cashier’s check or certified check to the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport.

Proposals will be received at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor-Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport no later than **2:00 P.M. CHST, July 24, 2024**. Proposals received after the date/time indicated above will not be opened and will be returned to the Proposer.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount no less than **ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount**. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FREDERICK PANGELINAN
Acting Executive Director

Date: _____



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E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM • WEBSITE: HTTPS: WWW.CNMIIMPORTS.COM



INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-010-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

“AIRCONDITIONING PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA, ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT”

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING MAY 28, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER’S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED “AIRCONDITIONING PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS/BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA, ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (IFB-010-24)” TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JUNE 28, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: _____



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
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Website: www.cnmiports.com



INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-012-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 16, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

“SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) BRAND NEW 4X4 PICK-UP TRUCK TO THE BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT”

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING JUNE 13, 2024 AT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE IN CASH, CASHIER’S CHECK, CREDIT CARD, OR U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER. ALL APPLICANTS SHALL PAY THE \$100.00 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BID.


BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED “SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ONE (1) BRAND NEW PICK-UP TRUCK TO THE BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (IFB-012-24)” TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JULY 16, 2024. A 10% BID BOND OR CASHIER’S CHECK PAYABLE TO CPA SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID DOCUMENTS. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.


THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: _____



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INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-014-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 30, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

“REPAIRS OF TYPHOON MAWAR DAMAGES AT THE BTM ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT”

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING JUNE 28, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$50.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER’S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED “REPAIRS OF TYPHOON DAMAGES AT THE BTM ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (IFB-014-24)” TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JULY 30, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: _____



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INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-011-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

“PROVIDE AND INSTALL ONE (1) BRAND COMMERCIAL AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/ SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING MAY 28, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER’S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED “PROVIDE AND INSTALL ONE BRAND NEW COMMERCIAL A/C UNIT (IFB-011-24)” TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JUNE 28, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: _____



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-008-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

“SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL OIL AND JET A1 FUEL”

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING MAY 28, 2024 AT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE IN CASH, CASHIER’S CHECK, CREDIT CARD, OR U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER. ALL APPLICANTS SHALL PAY THE \$100.00 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BID.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED “SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL OIL AND JET A1 FUEL (RFP-008-24)” TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JUNE 28, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: _____



PROCUREMENT SERVICES CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP24-GOV-42400111

SUBMISSION DATE: July 29, 2024

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL AT (<https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/>) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BUILDING NO. 1301, ASCENCION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE DIRECTED TO MRS. TRACY B. NORITA, AT THE SECRETARY OF FINANCE OFFICE, VIA EMAIL AT GHLIRFP@DOF.GOV.MP.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ **Tracy B. Norita**
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/S/ **Brien S. Nicholas, Jr.**
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

‘Thanks for the memories’

By **LEIGH GASES**
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Hyatt Regency Saipan has touched the lives of many people near and far. But, just like the “unsinkable” Titanic, the unthinkable is happening as the hotel is going to shut its doors down for good on June 30, 2024, after 43 years of service in the CNMI.

Ahead of the permanent closure, more than 100 current and former Hyatt employees gathered for a “Walk Down Memory Lane”—a reunion with food, laughter, and sharing of memories at the Micro Beach pavilion behind the hotel last June 8.

In the air hung a feeling of dread and inevitably, but at the same time, gratitude and nostalgia as the sunny summer day

brought generations of Hyatt staff together for a moment of recollection and appreciation.

The event was organized by former director of Human Resources Josephine Mesta, who sent out invites via social media and word of mouth.

She said of the event, “the celebration was really a success. We invited everybody from the past and present to come and join us and celebrate our years with the Hyatt and walk down memory lane and talk about our favorite or worst memories. I think with everyone here, we’ve all expressed that Hyatt has been a part of their lives, and if there’s anything we got out of it, it’s that it’s made us better people and also more confident in what we do in life.”

“We look forward to the fu-

ture of what will happen with the rest of us in Saipan,” she said. “We want to thank the Hyatt for being a part of our lives, a part of our children’s lives—and that’s something we’re very grateful for and we’re sorry to see them go.”

For former employee of 40 years Barbara Sablan, or affectionately called “Ms. Bobbie,” who worked at the Hyatt from 1983 to 2023, she said, “it’s overwhelming. We saw new faces and also old-timers from the ’80s.” With a crack in her voice, she said, “How I feel with Hyatt closing, it’s so sad and heartbreaking. It’s very hard to let go. Almost my whole life was there. My kids and grandkids grew up there and it’s just so sad that they’re closing up.”

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131



WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2023 CUC Water Quality Report is now available on-line! This year, we have a separate report for each island: Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. These reports contain important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Please open the following web sites to view what contaminants were detected in your water during 2023 and to learn more about your drinking water.

For Saipan, go to <https://www.cucgov.org/spn2023>

For Tinian, go to <https://www.cucgov.org/tin2023>

For Rota, go to <https://www.cucgov.org/rota2023>

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or e-mailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

RA AYOORA REPOODIL AMMWELIL SCHAAL

Repoodil yóómw 2023 CUC Ammwelil Schaal aa yoor online! Ráagh yeel, ai ayoora repoodngáli falúw kka: Seipél, Tchiliyól, me Luuta. E lo llól repood kkal arongorong ikka e impotanti reel milikka e toowow me ammwelil schaal iye ów ghal úlúmi.

Emmwel ubwe suughi website ikka e amwirimwiritiw ubwe amwuri meta kka e nngaw iye e lo llól yóómw schaal llól ráághil 2023 me ubwe metaff reel schaal iye ughal úlúmi.

Ngáli Seipél, mweteló reel <https://www.cucgov.org/spn2023>

Ngáli Tchiliyól, mweteló reel <https://www.cucgov.org/tin2023>

Ngáli Luuta, mweteló reel <https://www.cucgov.org/rota2023>

Ngare eyoor arongorong iye u mwuschel rebwe seleti, ngare u mwuschel kkapas ngáli escháy reel arongorong yeel, me ngare u mwuschel rebwe afanga ngare e-mail ngalúgh pappid yeel, fafaiól CUC reel (670) 664-4282.

RIPOT KUÁLIDÁT HÂNOM ESTA MANAGUAHA

Iyon-mu 2023 na Ripot nu i Kuálidát Hânóm i CUC managuahayi pá ’gu giya on-line! Pá ’gu na sákkán, in na ’guahayi siparáo na ripot para kada ’ isla: Saipan, Tinian, yan Luta. Esti na ripot siha masaguaniniyi impottánti na infotmasion put i tutuhonña yan kuálidát put i Hânóm ni un gigimin.

Put fabot baba i tinattiyi na web sites para un atan háfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda ’ gi hálum i hânóm-mu gi durántin 2023 na sákkán para un ke ’tungu ’ mäs put i hânóm ni un gigimin.

Para Saipan, hãnao para <https://www.cucgov.org/spn2023>

Para Tinian, hãnao para <https://www.cucgov.org/tin2023>

Para Luta, hãnao para <https://www.cucgov.org/rota2023>

Yanggin un nisissita i ripot matrânsládá, ya malagu ’ hão para un kuentusi háyi put i ripot, pat malagu’ hão mahanãogui kopian páppit osino para u ma- “e-mail” kopia guatu giya hãgu, put fabot ágang i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-24-024

OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR CUC ROTA’S ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS & OPERATIONS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the lease of a suitable office and operations support facility for the Headquarters of CUC’s Administration and Operations on the island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed office space must comply with American Disabilities Act (ADA), DPW, OSHA and CNMI Zoning regulation.

The RFP package may be obtained at the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration with CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RFP package will be emailed to the registered Proponents email ID. For registration inquiries, please email Marcela Tenorio, CUC Senior Administrative Technician via email address, marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of your submission must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RFP-24-024, Office Space Lease for CUC Rota’s Administrative Functions and Operations.” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 12, 2024**. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before the due date and time.

Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This proposal and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 21, 2024** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alvin King, CUC Rota Resident Manager at email address alvin.king@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal, in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN C. MAFNAS
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Business

SBDC hosts introductory training for USDA SBIR/STTR programs

In 2023, the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer, or SBIR/STTR, programs awarded \$4 billion in seed funding support through eleven government agencies across the nation’s federal sector including the U.S. Department of Defense. Through a highly competitive application process, the SBIR/STTR programs offer unique seed funding opportunities for small businesses and higher institutions of research with innovative ideas to solve government agency problems, and more importantly, have the ability to commercialize their products and/or their research findings in topic areas such as AgTech, artificial intelligence, national security, biotechnology and clean energy, to name a few.

The CNMI Small Business Development Center Network, in collaboration with the Tinian SBDC and Rota SBDC, and in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is excited to host a series of introductory training sessions to provide a more in-depth presentation and discussion related to the SBIR/STTR programs funded under the USDA. The USDA is one of 11 agencies with direct access to SBIR/STTR funding.

Each session will feature an in-person venue complemented by online video conferencing with off-island guest speakers contracted by the USDA. Participants will gain an understanding of the USDA’s SBIR/STTR programs, including eligibility requirements, application processes, and strategies for leveraging these programs to support research and development efforts. These federal initiatives offer small businesses a valuable opportunity to secure seed funding for R&D projects, driving innovation and economic growth within the country.

Training schedule:

- Tinian SBDC: Thursday, July 11, 9:30am-11am, Room D, Tinian NMC Center
- Rota SBDC: Thursday, July 18, 10:30am-12pm, Room A-1, Rota NMC Center

■ CNMI SBDC (Saipan): TBD

Registration Links:

- Tinian SBDC: Thursday, July 11, 9:30am-11am
❖ <https://marianas.ecenterdirect.com/events/1019159>
- Rota SBDC: Thursday, 10:30am-12pm
❖ <https://marianas.ecenterdirect.com/events/1019160>

Expanding access to these programs is part of the CNMI SBDC’s efforts in ensuring our Commonwealth is provided the same opportunities as the rest of our nation. Nadine C. Deleon Guerrero, Network director of the CNMI SBDC, expresses commitment to ensuring these opportunities do not pass the CNMI’s innovative thinkers, “During these times of economic uncertainty, your SBDC continues to strive in playing a proactive role in finding ways our entrepreneurs can access capital over traditional methods of going through banking or lending institutions. The SBIR/STTR programs provide the ability to connect our clients with the right federal agency who may support their innovative ideas. The SBDC stands ready to support clients who share the same level of commitment for innovation, and are serious about putting in the work.”

Join us and take the first step towards turning your innovative ideas into reality with the support of the SBIR/STTR programs. For more information, visit us online at www.cnmisbdc.com. You may also contact us at (670) 237-6888 or via email at cnmisbdc@marianas.edu. For the latest updates on training and events, follow us on social media @cnmisbdc on Instagram or CNMI Small Business Development Center Network on FaceBook.

The CNMI SBDC Network promotes a business-friendly economic infrastructure in the community, builds entrepreneurial capacity and financial literacy within that community, and provides current and nascent small businesses with the technical assistance, counseling, training, and support they need to innovate, adapt, and grow.

The CNMI SBDC Network comprises the CNMI SBDC lead center located in Saipan, the Rota SBDC, and Tinian SBDC. The CNMI SBDC Network is partially funded by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Northern Marianas College. All opinions, conclusions, or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with at least two weeks advance notice. For arrangements, please contact your local SBDC at P. O. Box 501250 Saipan, MP 96950, Tel: (670) 237-6888, or email SBDC Administrative Office manager Adelpha Magofna at adelpha.magofna@marianas.edu. Services are extended to the public on a non-disciplinary basis. (PR)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Commonwealth Economic Development Authority

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 | Fax: (670) 235-7147 | www.developcnmi.com



INVITATION FOR BIDS

2024-CEDA-08-IFB

CLOSING DATE: Friday, July 12, 2024 TIME: 10:00 a.m.

“OFFICE SPACE FOR COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CEDA) IN ROTA”

A copy of the bid may be picked up at the CEDA Office at 2390 Beach Road Oleai, Unit 205, Saipan, or at CEDA Rota Office at the Tamara & 7 Brothers Bldg., Songsong Village during regular business hours (7:30 am to 4:30 pm) Monday through Friday except CNMI holidays. The bid may also be obtained on our website at www.developcnmi.com.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS JR.
Acting Director, Procurement Services



In our hearts, today and always:

Lam Pek Kim

The family of our late founders Herman and Maria Guerrero, and the management and staff of Herman’s Modern Bakery, we offer our deepest condolences to Dr. Tan Siu Lin, the children and the families of the passing of Lam Pek Kim. Her loving touch as a pillar for the Northern Marianas has impacted many lives. Her life was a testament to service. May the memories of this great and dedicated matriarch continue to foster and inspire generations to come. We are forever grateful.

Life & Style

Britain's King Charles III welcomes visiting Japanese emperor and empress

LONDON (AP)—King Charles III welcomed the Japanese emperor and empress for a state visit that began on Tuesday, offering the best in pomp and circumstance as the U.K. seeks to bolster its role as the most influential European nation in the Indo-Pacific region.

Emperor Naruhito and Empress of Masako are to attend a banquet hosted by the king, lay a wreath at Westminster Abbey and tour one of Britain's premier biomedical research institutes. But the emperor began this week's trip by visiting a site that has special meaning: The Thames Barrier.

The retractable flood control gates on the River Thames seemed a natural destination for a royal long interested in the waterway that runs through the heart of London. Naruhito studied 18th-century commerce



Emperor Naruhito of Japan inspects the Guard of Honour formed of the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards during a ceremonial welcome for him and Empress Masako on the occasion of their state visit to Britain, at Horse Guards Parade, London, Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

on the river as a graduate student at the University of Oxford some 40 years ago.

He chronicled the interest in his memoir "The Thames and I," together with his fondness for Britain and its people. The future emperor got a chance to experience life outside the palace walls, including doing his own ironing, going to the bank and taking part in pub crawls.

Tuesday's ceremonial welcome seemed warm. Charles and Naruhito, who have known each other for years, settled into the back of a carriage and chatted like old chums.

Masako wore a mask in her

carriage because of a horse hair allergy.

Both countries look to each other as a source of stability and mutual reassurance at a time of potentially destabilizing global political change.

"We've had a long history of engagement," said John Nilsson-Wright, the head of the Japan and Korea program at the Centre for Geopolitics at the University of Cambridge. "But ... this current visit (is) a reflection of both the personal ties of affection between the two royal families (and) perhaps most importantly of all, the geopolitical significance of the relationship."

Bill Cobbs, prolific character actor, dies at 90

NEW YORK (AP)—Bill Cobbs, the veteran character actor who became a ubiquitous and sage screen presence as an older man, has died. He was 90.

Cobbs died Tuesday at his home in the Inland Empire, California, surrounded by family and friends, his publicist Chuck I. Jones said. Natural causes is the likely cause of death, Jones said.

A Cleveland native, Cobbs acted in such films as "The Hudsucker Proxy," "The Bodyguard" and "Night at the Museum." He made his first big-screen appearance in a fleeting role in 1974's "The Taking of Pelham One Two Three." He became a lifelong actor with some 200 film and TV credits. The lion share of those came in his 50s, 60s, and 70s, as filmmakers and TV producers turned to him again and again to imbue small but pivotal parts with a wizened and worn soulfulness.

Cobbs appeared on television shows including "The



Cobbs

Sopranos," "The West Wing," "Sesame Street" and "Good Times." He was Whitney Houston's manager in "The Bodyguard" (1992), the mystical clock man of the Coen brothers' "The Hudsucker Proxy" (1994) and the doctor of John Sayles' "Sunshine State" (2002). He played the coach in "Air Bud" (1997), the security guard in "Night at the Museum" (2006) and the father on "The Gregory Hines Show."

Cobbs rarely got the kinds of major parts that stand out and win awards. Instead, Cobbs was a familiar and memorable everyman who left an impression on audiences, regardless of screen time. He won a Daytime Emmy Award for outstanding limited performance in a daytime program for the series "Dino Dana" in 2020.

Nevada judge denies release of ex-gang leader ahead of trial in 1996 killing of Tupac Shakur

LAS VEGAS (AP)—An ailing former Los Angeles-area gang leader has been denied release from a Las Vegas jail ahead of his trial in the 1996 killing of music legend Tupac Shakur, despite a bid by a hip-hop music figure to underwrite his \$750,000 bond.

A Nevada judge rejected house arrest with electronic monitoring for Duane "Keffe D" Davis, 61, saying she wasn't satisfied with assurances that Davis and his would-be benefactor—Cash "Wack 100" Jones—weren't planning to



Duane "Keffe D" Davis, who is accused of orchestrating the 1996 slaying of hip-hop icon Tupac Shakur, right, talks to his attorney, Carl Arnold, in court at the Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas, Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

reap profits from the sale of Davis' life story.

A Nevada law prohibits convicted killers from profiting from their crime.

Clark County District Court Judge Carli Kierny said in her ruling issued Wednesday that a review of Jones' financial records also did little to address her concerns that Jones might be a "front" or "middleman" for the true bond poster.

Davis has sought to be released since shortly after his arrest last September made him the only person ever charged with a crime in the killing, which has drawn intense interest and speculation for 27 years.

Adult daughter has cut off contact with family members

DEAR ABBY: My older daughter, "Brianna," age 42, does not want anything to do with me or her brother and sister-in-law. She keeps me from my granddaughter, who is 17. I have been divorced since the '90s and remarried for 25 years. My first husband was a cheater. I tried very hard to save my first marriage. We got back together six months later, but he walked out again.

When I remarried, Brianna wasn't happy. I have another daughter, age 24, with my current husband. Brianna wants nothing to do with any of us. I wrote her and said I was sorry for the divorce. She has never mentioned anything about my letter. I have to leave gifts to my granddaughter at the front door. This hurts so bad. Everyone says let them go. I love them so much. What do you think?

ESTRANGED MOM IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR MOM: I think your granddaughter will be 18 very soon, and an adult. IF her mother hasn't diverted those gifts you have been leaving, she knows she has a grandmother who loves her. The ball will be in her court as to whether to make contact with you. (I hope she will.) If, however, she doesn't do that, you are going to have to turn your eyes forward and let her and your daughter live their lives, while you concentrate on what is healthy for YOU.

If you need interaction with younger people, volunteer

some time where it will make a difference. If your interests lie elsewhere, devote some of your extra time and effort in that direction. Your pain may lessen if you give yourself less time to dwell on it.

■■■■■

DEAR ABBY: Several years ago, I began a friendship with a woman at my church. She had children a few years older than my daughter. The friendship seemed mutually satisfying for a long time, although I noticed on many occasions that my friend seemed entitled and demanding where her children were concerned. I overlooked it until it affected me.

I realized over time that she had manipulated and lied to keep my daughter away from hers at teen social events because my daughter had been labeled "annoying." There was also other deceptive behavior.

These betrayals, combined with realizing that we don't agree on many subjects, has made me lose interest in the friendship. However, she doesn't seem to share my feelings. She still frequently invites me to lunch (which I refuse) and initiates "friendly" conversations.

Confronting her about her behavior would result in denials and a big blowup. How can I bring an end to this fake friendship?

NOT INTERESTED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR NOT INTERESTED: Since you no longer wish to

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



continue to have a relationship with this woman, the quickest way to end it would be to tell her exactly what you have learned about how your daughter was treated and that you feel appalled and betrayed. Whether she "blows up" and denies it is irrelevant.

If you can't bring yourself to confront her, then drag it out by continuing to be "too busy" to see her or to have those "friendly" conversations.

■■■■■

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Seattle Mariners beat Rays, 5-2, to avoid sweep



ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—George

Kirby allowed one run in six innings, Cal Raleigh hit a three-run homer and the AL West-leading Seattle Mariners avoided a three-game sweep by beating the Tampa Bay Rays 5-2 on Wednesday.

Seattle went 3-6 on a trip to Cleveland, Miami and Tampa Bay and at 19-25 is the only division leader with a losing road record.

Seattle closer Andrés Muñoz, who blew his second save in 15 chances on Monday, loaded the bases with no outs in the ninth on two walks and a hit by pitch with the Mariners ahead 5-1. Richie Palacios hit into a run-scoring forceout off Trent Thornton, who got his first big league save when Amed Rosario grounded into a game-ending double play.

PIRATES 6, REDS 1 CINCINNATI (AP)—Andrew McCutchen hit a two-run homer, Luis L. Ortiz threw six innings of one-run ball as Pittsburgh beat Cincinnati, winning a series between the NL Central rivals for the second consecutive week.

Rowdy Tellez also homered and Jason Delay drove in a pair of runs with a two-out double in the sixth. The Pirates (39-41) took two of three from the Reds, as they did last week in Pittsburgh.

Ortiz (4-2) allowed four hits in six innings with seven strikeouts and no walks. Kyle Nicolas pitched two hitless innings and Aroldis Chapman finished with a perfect ninth as the Reds (37-43) were held to four hits or fewer for the 18th time.

PHILLIES 6, TIGERS 2 DETROIT (AP)—Brandon Marsh had four hits, including a homer, and drove in four runs as Philadelphia beat Detroit to take two out of three games.

Marsh singled in the second inning, hit a two-run homer in the fourth, drove in two runs with a fifth-inning single and got another base hit in the eighth.

Phillies starter Spencer Turnbull, facing the Tigers for the first time after spending five seasons with them, allowed one run in three innings before leaving with right shoulder soreness. He was replaced by another former Tigers player, Gregory Soto.

ROYALS 5, MARLINS 1 KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Salvador Perez highlighted a five-run, two-out rally in the eighth inning with a go-ahead double down the left-field line, as Kansas City went on to beat Miami for the series win.



Miami Marlins' Jazz Chisholm Jr. is tagged out trying to steal second base by Kansas City Royals second baseman Maikel Garcia during the first inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, June 26, 2024, in Kansas City, Mo.

Angel Zerpa (1-0) got the final two outs of the eighth in relief of Brady Singer, who allowed an RBI single to Vidal Bruján in the second inning but little else. James McArthur handled the ninth to finish it off.

Kansas City had been shut down by Valente Bellozo and the bullpen until the eighth, when Bobby Witt Jr. started the rally with a triple off Huascar Brazoban (0-1). Vinnie Pasquantino followed with a tying single, and after pinch runner Dairon Blanco swiped second, Perez delivered the double that gave Kansas City the lead.

ASTROS 7, ROCKIES 1 HOUSTON (AP)—Rookie Spencer Arrighetti struck out a season-high 10 in seven scoreless innings and Yainer Diaz had three hits to lead Houston to a win over Colorado that extends their winning streak to a season-high seven games.

The Astros, who opened 7-19, improved to 40-40 and reached .500 for the first time this season.

Arrighetti (4-6) tied a season-low with three hits and didn't walk a batter for the first time this year in his longest start of the season.

BREWERS 6, RANGERS 5 F/10 MILWAUKEE (AP)—Andrew Monasterio hit a game-ending single in the 10th inning after entering as a replacement for injured Joey Ortiz, as Milwaukee beat Texas helped by Jake Bauers' grand slam and Jackson Chourio's inside-the-park homer.

Milwaukee recovered after wasting a 4-1 lead in Dallas Keuchel's Brewers debut and the NL Central leader swept a three-game sweep from the World Series champion.

With Willy Adames on second base as the automatic

runner, Bauers popped out on a bunt attempt off Jacob Latz (2-3), Rhys Hoskins was intentionally walked and Sal Frelick popped out. After a wild pitch, Monasterio lined a single to left-center.

ANGELS 5, ATHLETICS 2 ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Zach Neto had a tiebreaking three-run double in the sixth inning, and the Los Angeles Angels beat Oakland to sweep their three-game series.

Max Schuemann had an early RBI double that should have driven in two runs for the A's, but Kyle McCann was called out instead when he failed to touch home plate and then made contact with teammate Armando Alvarez, who had already scored.

Los Angeles still trailed 1-0 until its five-run sixth. Matt Thaiss added an RBI double for the Angels, who have won four of five after just their third series sweep of the season.

Joey Estes (2-3) gave up three hits and struck out eight while pitching into the sixth inning for the A's, who have lost five straight and 18 of 23. The right-hander walked two and remained winless in his past four starts.

PADRES 8, NATIONALS 5 SAN DIEGO (AP)—Kyle Higashioka homered twice, including his first career grand slam, and Dylan Cease pitched seven brilliant innings for the San Diego, who beat Washington to sweep a contentious three-game series.

Higashioka hit a two-run homer off rookie DJ Herz in the second inning and then a grand slam against Tanner Rainey in the eighth that hit high off the brick warehouse in the left-field corner and gave San Diego an 8-0 lead. It was the fourth grand slam of the season for the Padres and

second in two nights. It was his fifth career-multihomer game. He has eight homers this year.

Higashioka was obtained in the deal that sent Juan Soto to the New York Yankees on Dec. 7. The catcher set his career-high with six RBIs and finished with three hits.

ORIOLES 4, GUARDIANS 2 BALTIMORE (AP)—Cedric Mullins hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the seventh inning, and Baltimore beat Cleveland to end a five-game skid and snap the Guardians' seven-game winning streak.

Gunnar Henderson hit his 26th home run and Ryan O'Hearn also went deep for the Orioles, who were winless since pounding the Yankees 17-5 on June 20. It was their longest losing streak since May 2022.

Mullins connected off Xzavion Curry (0-2) to give Baltimore the lead for the first time. The towering drive soared inside foul pole and landed on Eutaw Street beyond the right field scoreboard.

O'Hearn made it 4-2 with a solo shot off Curry in the eighth.

BRAVES 6, CARDINALS 2, 1ST GAME CARDINALS 4, BRAVES 1, 2ND GAME ST LOUIS (AP)—Matthew Liberatore pitched six shut-out innings in a spot start and Alec Burleson hit a go-ahead, two-run double to lead the St. Louis over Atlanta Braves for a day-night double-header split.

Jarred Kelenic had three hits, including his eighth home run, and three RBIs as the Braves won the opener 6-2. Kelenic was 6 for 9 with four RBIs in the doubleheader and is hitting .362 (17 for 47) with four homers and 10 RBIs since being moved to

the leadoff spot in the batting order following Ronald Acuña Jr.'s season-ending knee injury.

Liberatore (2-2) gave up two hits and struck out eight in his fifth start of the season. He got the spot start following Tuesday night's rainout.

Burleson put the Braves ahead 2-0 in the third off Bryce Elder (1-3), who was recalled from Triple-A Gwinnett earlier in the day. An NL All-Star last season, Elder allowed two runs and five hits in six innings.

Michael Siani and Masyn Winn had two-out singles before Burleson lined the ball into the right-field corner for his 27th hit in June. Paul Goldschmidt and Brendan Donovan added run-scoring singles off Grant Holmes in the eighth.

Closer Ryan Helsley struck out Adam Duvall with two on for his major league-leading 28th save in 29 chances, his 28th in a row.

Kelenic had a run-scoring hit with two-out in the eighth off JoJo Romero after hitting a two-run homer in the sixth inning of the opener.

DODGERS 4, WHITE SOX 0 CHICAGO (AP)—Shohei Ohtani hit another lead-off homer and Gavin Stone pitched a four-hitter, helping the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Chicago White Sox on Wednesday for their fourth consecutive win.

Ohtani drove a full-count cut fastball from Erick Fedde deep to right-center for his NL-leading 25th homer. The 437-foot drive had a 113.9 mph exit velocity.

Ohtani's third leadoff homer this season extended his RBI streak to a franchise-record 10 games. The two-time AL MVP also hit a leadoff drive in Los Angeles' 4-3 victory on Tuesday night.

Stone (9-2) struck out seven and walked none in his first career complete game, providing a big lift for the NL West leaders after their bullpen accounted for 11 scoreless innings over the first two games of the sweep. The right-hander improved to 8-1 with a 2.03 ERA in his last 11 starts.

METS 12, YANKEES 2 NEW YORK (AP)—Francisco Alvarez homered early and had three RBIs, Tyrone Taylor added a three-run drive and the surging New York Mets routed the New York Yankees for a two-game Subway Series sweep.

Harrison Bader also went deep and delivered an RBI double for the Mets (39-39), who chased rookie Luis Gil

(9-3) in the fifth inning. They pounded Yankees pitching for seven homers, 21 runs and 24 hits over two nights at Citi Field.

With their 15th victory in 19 games, the Mets climbed back to .500 for the first time since they were 18-18 going into a May 10 loss to Atlanta.

The struggling Yankees, who lead the AL East, have lost four consecutive series and eight of 10 games.

Following an 87-minute rain delay in the bottom of the fifth, Aaron Judge launched a two-run homer with the Yankees trailing 7-0 in the sixth. It was his 287th home run, tying Bernie Williams for seventh in franchise history.

Judge also joined Mark McGwire (four times) and Ken Griffey Jr. as the only players to reach 30 homers before the All-Star break three times.

TWINS 8, DIAMONDBACKS 3 PHOENIX (AP)—Jose Miranda hit an early three-run double, Simeon Woods Richardson pitched effectively into the sixth inning and Minnesota beat Arizona.

Miranda hit the first of two doubles in the second inning off Ryne Nelson (5-6) and the Twins piled on from there.

Willi Castro hit a two-run homer, Trevor Lamach doubled twice and one of baseball's best offenses banged out 14 hits, including eight for extra bases to bounce back from a 5-4 loss in the series opener.

That was more than enough for Woods Richardson (3-1), who allowed three runs on four hits and struck out four with two walks in 5 1/3 innings.

Lourdes Gurriel Jr. had two RBIs for Arizona, which had four hits.

GIANTS 4, CUBS 3 SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Michael Conforto and David Villar hit back-to-back home runs in the second inning, Luis Matos hit a tiebreaking solo shot in the fifth and San Francisco beat Chicago.

Seiya Suzuki homered for Chicago, which lost its fourth in a row and fell to 3-13 in its last 16 road games.

Giants starter Hayden Birdsong was called up from Triple-A Sacramento for his major league debut, and allowed three runs and six hits with five strikeouts and three walks in 4 2/3 innings.

Luke Jackson (4-1) followed with 1 1/3 scoreless innings for his fourth straight win. Camilo Doval pitched the ninth for his 14th save in 16 chances.

Hawks make Risacher 2nd straight Frenchman taken No. 1 in NBA Draft

NEW YORK (AP)—First, Victor Wembanyama, now Zaccharie Risacher.

These days, American college players have to wait their turn in the NBA draft. It's someone else's time at the top.

Vive la France!

The Atlanta Hawks took Risacher with the No. 1 pick Wednesday night and France landed three players in the top six in a historic night for the country.

"That's amazing," Risacher said. "We try to represent our country and so, glad to be a part of it. You know there is more players coming in."

Risacher doesn't come with the enormous height or hype of Wembanyama, the towering center who went to San Antonio last year and went on to win the Rookie of the Year award.

But the Hawks saw him as the best choice in what has been viewed as a draft absent of elite talent.

The 19-year-old forward was the winner of the best young player award in the French League last season and beat out fellow Frenchman Alex Sarr in the race to be the top pick.

When he did, it made NBA draft history. This is the first time that the draft has gone consecutive years without the No. 1 pick being someone who played at an American college.

"Shows the amount of talent we have in France," Sarr said. "Really excited for Zach. I think our national team is going to be really good."

Sarr went second to the



Zaccharie Risacher, right, poses for a photo with NBA commissioner Adam Silver after being selected as the first overall pick by the Atlanta Hawks in the first round of the NBA basketball draft, Wednesday, June 26, 2024, in New York.

Washington Wizards after playing last year with Perth in Australia's National Basketball League.

The Hawks had only a 3% chance of winning the lottery to earn the No. 1 pick, and there was no obvious choice waiting once they did. Most mock drafts were split between Risacher and Sarr, and Atlanta also worked out UConn center Donovan Clingan.

Houston made Kentucky freshman Reed Sheppard the No. 3 pick. A one-and-done college player had topped

the draft for 13 straight years from 2010-22 before Wembanyama ended that streak.

Now the draft is under French rule.

Stephon Castle of the two-time reigning national champion Huskies made it two straight college freshmen when San Antonio took him at No. 4, the Spurs' first of two picks in the top 10. They also held the No. 8 selection—though they dealt the rights to that pick, Kentucky guard Rob Dillingham, to Minnesota.

But the Spurs are holding

onto Castle, who had a phone call with Wembanyama and can now throw passes to him to ease his transition from Dan Hurley in his old home to Gregg Popovich in his new one.

"I was just playing for the best coach in college basketball and now flipping to the NBA and going to play for a legendary coach like Coach Pop, it's a blessing," Castle said.

The Detroit Pistons took Ron Holland of the G League Ignite with the fifth pick before the Hornets took Tidjane

Teams keep trading light on the opening night of the NBA's 2-day draft

The NBA splitting its draft into a two-night affair helped limit the number of trades during the first round.

Commissioner Adam Silver announced two of the three proposed trades Wednesday night. No deal can be official until July 6 when the league's new year begins, but that's never stopped NBA teams from swapping players and selections.

Before the draft got under way, the Portland Trail Blazers acquired forward Deni Avdija from the Washington Wizards in exchange for guard Malcolm Brogdon, the 14th pick in this year's draft and a first-round pick in 2029.

A person familiar with the deal confirmed the trade to the The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because it had not been announced. Silver later detailed the deal during the first round.

The Blazers made the

pick, selecting Carlton "Bub" Carrington out of Pitt. Carrington averaged 13.8 points and 5.4 rebounds in his lone college season. The Wizards also took French center Alex Sarr with the No. 2 overall pick.

Minnesota also agreed on a trade with the San Antonio Spurs to get Kentucky guard Rob Dillingham, the eighth overall pick.

The Timberwolves will complete the deal by sending to the Spurs their unprotected 2031 first-round pick and make a 2030 swap that's protected for the top pick, both ESPN and The Athletic reported.

Dillingham spent his only college season at Kentucky, averaging 15.2 points, 3.9 assists, 2.9 rebounds and 23.3 minutes per game while making 44.4% of his 3-point attempts. The native of North Carolina is a shot creator and dynamic scorer who can give the Timberwolves

some needed production off the bench.

The Suns made the final move of the first round, dealing their No. 22 pick to the Denver Nuggets for the No. 28 pick, No. 56 pick and two future second-round selections.

The Nuggets took Dayton big man DaRon Holmes II at No. 22 while the Suns grabbed Virginia's Ryan Dunn with the 28th pick, adding arguably the draft's premier defensive prospect. Denver might've gotten a steal with Holmes, a three-time All-Defensive player while averaging 20.4 points his final college season.

Denver general manager Calvin Booth said the team liked the jump Holmes took as a 3-point shooter along with his experience. The Nuggets saw Minnesota as a potential threat to grab Holmes.

"It was important for us to get ahead and get our guy,"

Booth said.

The Nets didn't wait for the draft to start, making a big move Tuesday night trading Mikal Bridges to the New York Knicks, where he'll be rejoining former Villanova teammates in a deal confirmed to The Associated Press under condition of anonymity because it is not yet official.

It was the first trade between the New York rivals since 1983 and will put Bridges in the lineup alongside Brunson, Josh Hart and Donte DiVincenzo, players who helped Villanova win two NCAA championships, and join a core that got the Knicks to the Eastern Conference semifinals last season.

The Knicks will pay big to get him, with ESPN reporting that they are sending Bojan Bogdanovic to the Nets along with four unprotected first-round picks and one protected pick. (AP)

Salaun, who played last year for Cholet Basket in France.

"I think the basketball in France is improved that's why we are here in this draft," Saluan said.

Clingan, who won titles in both seasons in Storrs, finally went to Portland at No. 7.

The draft moved to a two-night format this year, with the first round being held as usual at Barclays Center in Brooklyn and the second round to be held Thursday at ESPN's Seaport District studios.

The green room was filled with a number of unfamiliar faces who will head to the NBA from other leagues or other countries. A player who would have been one of the most recognizable was not in the arena: Zach Edey, the two-time AP Player of the Year from Purdue, was taken at No. 9 by Memphis.

Another All-American, Tennessee's Dalton Knecht,

went lower than predicted, after dropping from an expected lottery pick to the Los Angeles Lakers at No. 17.

The Knicks had back-to-back picks as the round dragged toward the finish, but their fans had much more to cheer with the moves they made before the draft. New York made a deal to acquire Mikal Bridges from Brooklyn on Tuesday, then got OG Anunoby to agree to stay with the team on a five-year contract worth more than \$210 million on Wednesday.

Bronny James was not drafted in the first round, though LeBron James' son had one of his USC teammates taken just before the night ended, with Isaiah Collier going to Utah with the No. 29 selection.

The first round then wrapped up with the NBA champion Boston Celtics taking Baylor Scheierman from Creighton.

List of first-round picks in 2024 NBA Draft

1. Atlanta Hawks—Zaccharie Risacher, forward, 6-9, 215, JL Bourg-en-Bresse (France)
2. Washington Wizards—Alex Sarr, center, 7-0, 224, Perth (Australia)
3. Houston Rockets (from Brooklyn)—Reed Sheppard, guard, 6-2, 182, Kentucky
4. San Antonio Spurs—Stephon Castle, guard, 6-6, 210, UConn
5. Detroit Pistons—Ron Holland II, forward, 6-7, 197, G League Ignite
6. Charlotte Hornets—Tidjane Salaun, forward, 6-9, 217, Cholet (France)
7. Portland Trail Blazers—Donovan Clingan, center, 7-2, 282, UConn
8. San Antonio (from Toronto)—Rob Dillingham, guard, 6-1, 164, Kentucky
9. Memphis Grizzlies—Zach Edey, center, 7-4, 299, Purdue
10. Utah Jazz—Cody Williams, forward, 6-7, 178, Colorado
11. Chicago Bulls—Matas Buzelis, forward, 6-9, 197 pounds, G League Ignite
12. Oklahoma City Thunder (from Houston)—Nikola Topic, guard, 6-6, 203, KK Crvena Zvezda (Serbia)
13. Sacramento Kings—Devin Carter, guard, 6-2, 193, Providence
14. Portland Trail Blazers (from Golden State via Boston and Memphis)—Carlton "Bub" Carrington, guard, 6-4, 195, Pittsburgh
15. Miami Heat—Kel'el Ware, center, 7-0, 230, Indiana
16. Philadelphia 76ers—Jared McCain, guard, 6-2, 203, Duke
17. Los Angeles Lakers—Dalton Knecht, guard, 6-5, 212, Tennessee
18. Orlando Magic—Tristan da Silva, forward, 6-8, 217, Colorado
19. Toronto Raptors (from Indiana)—Ja'Kobe Walter, guard, 6-4, 198, Baylor
20. Cleveland Cavaliers—Jaylon Tyson, forward, 6-6, 218, California
21. New Orleans Pelicans (from Milwaukee)—Yves Missi, center, 6-11, 229, Baylor
22. Phoenix Suns—DaRon Holmes II, forward/center, 6-9, 236, Dayton
23. Milwaukee Bucks (from New Orleans)—AJ Johnson, guard, 6-4, 167, Illawarra (Australia)
24. New York Knicks (from Dallas)—Kyshawn George, forward, 6-7, 209, Miami
25. New York Knicks—Pacome Dadiet, forward, 6-8, 217, Ratiopharm Ulm (Germany)
26. Washington Wizards (from LA Clippers via Dallas and Oklahoma City)—Dillon Jones, guard, 6-5, 237, Weber State
27. Minnesota Timberwolves—Terrence Shannon Jr., guard, 6-6, 219, Illinois
28. Denver Nuggets—Ryan Dunn, forward, 6-6, 214, Virginia
29. Utah Jazz (from Oklahoma City via Toronto and Indiana)—Isaiah Collier, guard, 6-3, 205, USC
30. Boston Celtics—Baylor Scheierman, guard/forward, 6-6, 202, Creighton (AP)

Rotaract Club to host Summer Showdown Vol. 2 gaming tourney

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
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CORRESPONDENT



The Rotaract Club of Saipan is set to reignite the island's e-sports scene with the highly anticipated Summer Showdown Vol. 2 gaming tournament this Saturday, June 29, 2024. The event, which promises to draw gamers from across the island, will take place at the newly opened Pepoy's Restacafe in Susupe. Doors open at 4pm., and an entry fee of \$10 is required to participate.

Simon Necesito, the club's director-elect and committee head, expressed the club's motivation behind organizing this tournament.

"There was a need in the gaming community for a gaming tournament. The last one we held was two years ago," he said. Reflecting on past challenges, Necesito noted, "Some of our biggest problems at the time were because of COVID and finding a venue to host. With the rise of e-sports re-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Masked participants from Rotaract Club of Saipan's Summer Showdown last 2021 at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe pose for the camera.

turning, we have a chance to introduce it back into the islands."

He added, "We also have a lot of passionate players who need a community to come together and showcase their talents."

Rotaract Club of Saipan president

Richard Baleares echoed Necesito's sentiments, highlighting the demand from the community.

"Since our last tournament in 2021, I've heard people asking about when the next one. We tried to have another in Fall 2021, but the timing of COVID



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
One of the gaming monitors during the 2021 Summer Showdown.

community cases made us scrap that idea," said Baleares. "From there it was just chatter about wanting to do one on top of our projects. However, nothing materialized until recently when director-elect Simon and I saw the opportunity to host one to-

wards the end of the Rotary Year and here we are."

For Baleares, the upcoming tournament holds a special significance.

"It's a poetic end to my three terms as president as the first project I pitched to the club when I was a new member was to hold a fighting game tournament with the help of Simon who wasn't a part of Rotaract then," he said.

He further emphasized the broader goals of the event, stating, "We hope we can help build goodwill and better friendships within the gaming community and help foster interest in e-sports all while helping our cause of putting Service Above Self in Rotaract." He also shared that ultimately, the tournament would be a fundraiser for the club.

The Rotaract Club of Saipan invites all gaming enthusiasts to participate in this exciting event. For those interested in competing, registration can be completed at <http://start.gg/tournament/rotaract-summer-showdown-vol-2/events>.

Don't miss out on this chance to not only showcase your skills, but also be a part of a growing community dedicated to not only e-sports but service.

COACH

From page 24

more tougher training into them."

At the same time, he was back on island for a coaching course that eight NMI players attended. Then, after the training camp, he'll stay for the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2024.

There, he said, "I'll start off doing some stringing in the tournament, but some of these players in the camp, I'll help them with their first matches."

For the junior players who will compete in the upcoming tourney, he said, "It's just the experience for

them. They're obviously going to be competing against some of the top players in the world, but the biggest thing is the experience. You don't get better unless you can see international badminton. So, it's key that the tournaments are here because they get to actually experience what the top players in the world look like. Otherwise, if you don't see that, it's hard to aim and improve to that level."

He added that it's great there are more international tournaments that will be played here. "When I looked at the draws, there are so many strong players that will come and play this tournament. It's one of the stron-

gest—Grade 3 international tournaments in the Oceania region. This year it'll be different because it's not an Olympic qualifier, but the quality of the players are still really, really high."

Abigail Robles, for her part, said of the camp, "It's been really fun. I've been looking forward to it for a really long time." On what was the key takeaway for her, she said, "talent is something that you have, but it's nothing if you don't work hard." As she is 19, she is one of other NMI players competing in the U19 2024 BWF Badminton World Junior Championships in China later

this year.

For 16-year-old Dave Odicta, he also said the camp is fun. On what he thinks of Thackham, he said, "He's a really motivating man. He really helps with badminton skills, our technical skills, and our footwork everyday—that's good of him as a coach, especially since he flew all the way from New Zealand."

He is competing in the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2024, and as a young player, he said, "I'm excited but also nervous. But I want to learn more from new players and get insights on their play style and technical skills."

BRAVES

From page 24

The only other run would come in the fifth, but at this point, the Braves led, 7-4.

Four more runs would score for the Braves in the sixth from the top of the lineup of Damian Marchadesch, Aiken Norita, Herman Iguel, and Zekiel Falig. Towards the end, the Phillies couldn't get past Braves' pitching and handed over the championship to the Braves, 11-4.

Third place in the Juniors division was Blue Jays Jr. The Phillies Jr. won the pennant and the Comets Jr. won the Sportsmanship Award.

The Juniors' season MVP was Austin Camacho, while the championship MVP was Herman Iguel.

In other Juniors' individual awards, the Batting Champion was Jequinn Lizama; Most Runs Award went to Caleb Cabrera; Most Doubles was Damian Palacios; Stanley Iakopo had the Most Triples Award; and the Most Home Runs Award went to Zekiel Falig.

In the Majors division, the Braves trounced Ol'Aces, 12-7.

Ol'Aces had a 6-0 lead after they started the finals off with a bang in the first inning, but the Braves team rallied to make a comeback.

In the second, middle of the order Kaleb Reyes, Nate Nekai, and Damian Sablan scored to cut the lead, 3-6.

Then, Braves' pitching held down Ol'Aces in the next innings which gave their offense time to score.

The Braves blew the game wide open in the third as they scored seven runs to put them up, 10-6. Two more runs would score for the Braves, while Ol'Aces produced just one more run in their last at-bat to hand the title to the younger Braves team of the league, 12-7.

For the Majors division, the Marlins settled for third place, while the Pirates won the Sportsmanship Award.

The Majors' season MVP was John Fred, while Elijah Babauta was named the Championship MVP awardee.

The Batting Champion was Debron Saures; the Most Runs went to Dayton Marchadesch; the Most Doubles was Dylan Barcinas; the Most Triples was Preston Santos; and the Most Home Runs was Jayton Dela Cruz.

Braves Jr. coach Calvani Guerrero said, "This season was awesome! Thank you to the NSA and Mr. George N. Camacho for spearheading this season. It was a very successful season! All the teams involved from the majors to the juniors performed exceptionally well."

On how he felt about winning the championship, he said, "All glory goes to our kids, coaches, and par-

ents. It's always an awesome feeling winning the championship! Not many people know how much sacrifices the coaches, kids, and parents endure before and during the season. The time and effort put into all the practices is immense. Again, I want to thank all the coaches, parents and our kids for such an amazing season. To the NSA family,

ATHLETES

From page 24

Ayuyu said in an interview, "Thank you to the parents who helped and supported their kids, as well as the volunteers taking their time to be there. To all the athletes, I just want to say I'm so proud of them."

"We do the best we can—McDonald's is here to help in any way we can. I'm just glad I'm here in Guam at the same time as the team... I'm just happy to support any way I can," she said.

As for the overall team's performance in the Micro Games, she said, "They did a really good job. They went there and really did their best—I'm inspired."

During the dinner, fast-pitch coach Derron Flores thanked Ayuyu for the meal and for their support of the team. He said, "on behalf of the athletes, thank you for hosting us. All our athletes worked hard to smash the record."

thank you for an amazing program and for bringing back the number one sport in the CNMI." He thanked Braves manager George N. Camacho, all the Braves' coaching staff which includes coach Ian Norita and coach Nick for the Braves Majors division, and Braves Jr. coach Andave Marchadesch and coach I.J. Teigita.

For NMI National Tennis Team head coach Jeff Race, he said, "In all the Games I've been in, I think this is the most successful one for the Northern Mariana Islands. I felt like our team had good camaraderie when we were there and a lot of support; we tried to watch the sports when we could. It was a memorable Games experience that the people who went will never forget."

He added, "We would have never been able to do this without the sponsors at McDonald's and our other sponsors so, thank you so much."

Sapong then thanked Ayuyu for the support and thanked all the coaches as well.

NMI Athletics team member Theodore Rodgers then led a closing prayer for the team giving thanks for the journey and praying for a safe flight back home.

The rest of the team trickled on home before the Games ended on June 24, with more athletes on the way home this week.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	52	30	.634	—
Baltimore	50	30	.625	1
Boston	43	37	.538	8
Tampa Bay	40	41	.494	11½
Toronto	36	43	.456	14½
Central Division				
Cleveland	51	27	.654	—
Minnesota	44	36	.550	8
Kansas City	44	38	.537	9
Detroit	37	43	.463	15
Chicago	21	61	.256	32
West Division				
Seattle	46	37	.554	—
Houston	40	40	.500	4½
Texas	37	43	.463	7½
Los Angeles	33	46	.418	11
Oakland	29	54	.349	17
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Philadelphia	53	27	.663	—
Atlanta	44	34	.564	8
New York	39	39	.500	13
Washington	38	42	.475	15
Miami	28	52	.350	25
Central Division				
Milwaukee	48	33	.593	—
St. Louis	41	38	.519	6
Pittsburgh	39	41	.488	8½
Cincinnati	37	43	.463	10½
Chicago	37	44	.457	11
West Division				
Los Angeles	51	31	.622	—
San Diego	44	41	.518	8½
Arizona	39	41	.488	11
San Francisco	39	42	.481	11½
Colorado	27	53	.338	23

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Seattle Mariners
beat Rays, 5-2, to
avoid sweep.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Rotaract Club
to host Summer
Showdown Vol. 2
gaming tourney.

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24 FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

AHEAD OF CROWNE PLAZA NORTHERN MARIANAS OPEN 2024

Coach Robbie back for badminton training camp

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Robbie Thackham, Badminton Oceania Coaching and Development manager, is back on Saipan for a week-long badminton training camp for 20 junior badminton players at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.



LEIGH GASES

Participants of the badminton training camp hosted by Coaching and Development manager for Badminton Oceania Robbie Thackham pose for a group photo at the Marianas High School Gymnasium yesterday.



LEIGH GASES

NMI badminton player Kyle Salcedo goes after the birdie during a session with Badminton Oceania Robbie Thackham in their badminton training camp yesterday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.



Along with the local players, two Guam badminton players tagged along in the six-day training camp that started last Tuesday and will end this Sunday.

Thackham, who's on his fourth visit to Saipan already, said that the training camp consists of morning and afternoon sessions.

The morning sessions are more on badminton footwork, cardio, and conditioning. The

afternoon/evening sessions are more on technical skills.

Assisting Thackham in the camp is New Zealand badminton player Edward Lau, who is also competing in the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2024 that is slated for July 2 to 7 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With already three other clinics he's hosted in the past, Thackham said the skill level has developed since the last time he visited in October. "The quality is much better this time and they're more prepared, so I can push them a little bit harder and put some

See COACH on Page 22



LEIGH GASES

Coaching and Development manager for Badminton Oceania Robbie Thackham sets up some drills for the 20 junior badminton players from the NMI and Guam yesterday in his badminton training camp at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Braves sweep Majors and Juniors champs

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER



The Braves' Juniors and Majors teams swept the titles of their divisions in the 2024 Natibu Sports Association Youth Baseball League.

Both finals were played at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Baseball Field last June 16.

The Juniors team won over the Phillies Jr., 11-4.

They got down to business early and scored two in the first and two in the second for a 4-0 lead. They couldn't hold down the Phillies long though as they scored two off Ezekiel Babauta and Caleb Cabrera to cut the lead in half, 2-4.

Then, the Braves dug in their cleats and got to work at the plate as they scored two more runs in the third for another four-run lead, 6-2. Braves' pitching then gave up one run to make it 3-6.

See BRAVES on Page 22



NSA

The Braves Junior division team is the Junior Division champions in the 2024 Natibu Sports Association Youth Baseball League after they beat Phillies Junior, 11-4, last June 16 at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Baseball Field.



NSA

The Braves Majors division team is the Majors Division champions in the 2024 Natibu Sports Association Youth Baseball League after they beat Ol'Aces, 12-7, last June 16 at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Baseball Field.

Athletes treated to McDonald's Guam; gives thanks

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER



Some Team NMI athletes who competed at the 10th Micronesian Games were treated to dinner at McDonald's Guam on their layover from their travels from the Marshall Islands last Monday night.

McDonald's of Saipan/Guam was a major sponsor for the delegation and with Marcia Ayuyu, vice president and owner for McDonald's of Saipan/Guam also in Guam at the same time as the athletes, she treated them to dinner at their Tamuning branch.

The athletes consisted of

the NMI National Athletics Team, NMI National Tennis Team, and some members of the NMI National Fast Pitch Softball Team. They were joined by Northern Marianas Athletics general secretary Robin Sapong, who was also in the Games as an official.

See ATHLETES on Page 22



LEIGH GASES

Some members of the NMI delegation for the 10th Micronesian Games from the athletics team, tennis team, and softball team pose for a group photo at McDonald's Guam as they were hosted by Micro Games sponsor McDonald's last Monday on their way home from the Marshall Islands.